

Doctor in Shatila refugee camp appeals for international help

BEIRUT (AP) — A trapped Canadian doctor appealed for international humanitarian help to "break the slow torture" of 5,000 Palestinians besieged in Beirut's Shatila refugee camp.

"The camp is slowly going from hunger to starvation. There were three incidents of cats being roasted about a month ago, just before the first U.N. (relief) shipment came in," the doctor, Chris Giannou, 38, of Toronto, told the Associated Press in a radio-telephone interview.

"We only have enough food for the camp for another four or five days and that's it," Dr. Giannou said.

Militiamen of the mainstream Shi'ite Muslim Amal Movement have been besieging Shatila for the past four months, preventing the inhabitants from leaving the small, devastated shantytown.

"The people of Shatila are very cold, hungry, frustrated and worried," said Dr. Giannou, the only surgeon at the camp hospital.

Syrian-backed Amal has been engaged in an intermittent war with the Palestinians for the control of refugee camps in Beirut and South Lebanon since May 1985. At least 1,600 people have been killed and 3,600 wounded.

The current round of fighting which broke out last Nov. 24 at

Shatila and the nearby Bourj Al Barajneh camp has been the longest and fiercest.

Amal partially eased its siege of Bourj Al Barajneh last month, after the camp's 20,000 refugees were reported to have eaten cats, dogs, rats and mice. It allowed only the women and children to go out to search for food.

At least 38 Palestinians have been killed and 127 wounded in sporadic skirmishes around Shatila and Bourj Al Barajneh since 7,500 Syrian troops deployed in Muslim west Beirut on Feb. 22 to end a week of factional fighting that killed 300 people and wounded 1,300.

An official of the popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine who requested anonymity, said the Palestinian fatalities included 25 women killed by Amal snipers who have been "hunting them down one by one" since the Shi'ite militia permitted "some" of Bourj Al Barajneh's women to leave.

Dr. Giannou said Shatila's population "would like very much the Syrians to extend their

security plan to the immediate neighbourhood of the camp to enforce a cease-fire and open the road to the camp."

A complete end to the camps war is unforeseen, at least in the near future, as long as the conflict continues between Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat and Syrian President Hafez Assad, PLO sources said. Mr. Assad opposes Mr. Arafat's leadership of the PLO.

"Syria cannot reach a solution in Lebanon without the PLO. Therefore, the camps war cannot be solved between (Brig. Gen. Ghazi) Kenaan and the Palestine National Salvation Front (PNSF)," said a senior Palestinian commander of Fatah, Mr. Arafat's mainstream commando faction.

Gen. Kenaan is Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon. The PNSF is an alliance of six Damascus-based guerrilla factions opposed to Mr. Arafat.

The Syrians have not deployed in the predominantly Shi'ite neighbourhoods south of Beirut, where the refugee camps are. But the fighting near the camps has eased and a few truckloads of U.N.-donated food supplies have been allowed in.

"We have received three ship-

ments of foodstuff, but they are insufficient," Dr. Giannou complained. He spoke of shortages in flour, milk, rice, sugar, fuel oil, gasoline, and medical supplies in the camp's only hospital.

Shatila refugees were "literally burning their homes, or what is left of them, in order to keep warm and to bake a few loaves of bread," he added.

He warned that if the Shatila siege continued for another two or three weeks, "The refugees will burst out despite the risk of death."

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, based in Damascus, said it would be impossible to restore stability in the camps and their surroundings "as long as Amal's military presence continues."

"We will not allow anyone to humiliate the Palestinian people as long as the Syrian forces are in Beirut," said the spokesman, code-named Abu Fadi.

Gen. Kenaan says the camp siege will be called off if the Palestinians withdraw from a string of villages seized on Nov. 28 from Amal near Sidon 40 kilometres south of Beirut.

The Palestinians have pulled back from the villages, but they refuse to relinquish a stretch of terrain overlooking refugee camps in the Sidon region.

China reportedly helps Iran develop new missiles

By Ed Blanche
Associated Press

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — Syria apparently has delayed plans to invade the Beirut stronghold of Iranian-backed Shi'ite fundamentalists, but Damascus' alliance with Tehran still looks shaky.

Well-placed Arab sources said Syrian forces plan to take over Beirut's teeming southern slums where the fundamentalist Hezbollah, or Party of God, has its base.

The major sticking point right now is the foreign hostages who are almost certainly held in the southern suburbs, stressed one source, who requested anonymity as did others who spoke on the matter.

The British Sunday paper, quoting Iranian sources, said the short-range missile was based on a Chinese version of the Soviet-made Frog and had been fired at the Iraqi port of Basra. The missile has a range of 64 kilometres.

The other type, similar to the Soviet army's Scud B with a range of 290 kilometres is at an advanced stage of development, according to the Observer.

The development of a longer-range weapon would enable Iran to strike at many towns and cities on the territory of its relatively small neighbour.

Last week, Iran sent shock waves throughout the Gulf by acknowledging that it had acquired Chinese-made missiles capable of hitting tankers carrying crude oil from Arab countries to the West.

The United States responded by announcing it was moving warships into the Straits of Hormuz — the entrance to the Gulf — to ensure the free flow of oil to the West.

The sources reported that Brig. Gen. Ghazi Kenaan, Syria's military intelligence chief in Lebanon, was expected to order his men into the Shi'ite shantytowns once he has pinpointed where the hostages are being held.

The sources said that the Syrians have assured Lebanon's Christian President, Amin Gemayel, they will push into Hezbollah's sanctuary "in due time."

Eliminating the threat of Shi'ite fundamentalism is one of the Christians' conditions for cooperating with Syria in efforts to end Lebanon's 12-year-old civil war.

A Syrian thrust into south Beirut would likely deal a death blow to the Damascus-Tehran alliance, an uneasy relationship at best. Secular Syria has little in common with the fundamentalist government in Tehran.

The Saudis have been trying to wean Syria away from Iran to isolate Tehran in the Gulf war that is increasingly destabilising the strategic Gulf region.

The Saudis have promised financial aid for Mr. Assad — which he needs — but they want Syria to curb the Shi'ites who seek to set up a second Islamic Republic in Lebanon.

The Saudis also pledged that if Iran cuts off oil supplies to Syria, they and the Kuwaitis would make up the loss.

The Damascus-Tehran alliance has been showing signs of strain in recent months.

In the last year, Syria imported only 1 million tons of oil under a 1983 agreement with Iran. It has not touched another 5 million

tons available under the deal.

Syria has objected to paying the contract price of \$2.50 below the 1983 level of \$2 a barrel, but well above today's market price.

At the same time, the Iranians have bitterly complained about Syria's failure to pay \$2.3 billion it owes Tehran.

Iran's attacks in southern Iraq have further undermined the alliance. Mr. Assad has reportedly said that even though he is at odds with Iraq, Syria will not tolerate Iranian occupation of Arab soil.

Like most Arabs, Mr. Assad fears the spread of revolutionary Shi'ite fundamentalism and does not want to see it flourish in his own backyard.

While Syria supported Iraq against Iraq, Tehran was prepared to allow Syria to be the main power broker in Lebanon. But the Iranians don't need the Syrians to the same degree the Iraqis did.

The sources said that when the alarmed Iranians sent Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati to Damascus on Feb. 23, the day after the Syrians invaded into Beirut, Mr. Assad blithely told Iran he wanted French and German hostages freed in return for not moving against Hezbollah.

The Iranians refused. The next day, Mr. Assad's troops killed 2,000 Hezbollah members holed up near the evacuated Basta headquarters, in what was seen as a clear signal to Tehran.

Iran retaliated by warning Mr. Assad that if he did not rein in his troops "he would start getting hostages — in coffins," the sources said.

"Iran is blackmailing Syria with the hostages," one informant noted.

Mr. Assad wants to impress the West by freeing hostages to refute allegations Syria has sponsored international attacks.

The United States and Western countries imposed diplomatic and economic sanctions against Syria in November, but have been quietly restoring links in hopes of Syrian help in freeing the hostages.

Lebanon is the key to Syria's regional ambitions and if Mr. Assad fails to curb Hezbollah, he will be forced to take further steps to disqualify the judge and to postpone the trial were unreasonable.

The trial judges had been "extraordinarily patient and lenient with the defense during the six weeks since the trial began," Blattman said.

He is charged with being the brutal Nazi guard "Ivan the Terrible" who tortured victims before operating the gas chambers at Treblinka camp.

Demjanjuk has insisted he is a victim of mistaken identity and was never in Treblinka.

Greek-Turkish row eases but continental shelf problem stays

ATHENS (Agencies) — The threat of a clash between Greece and Turkey over oil exploration dispute over the extent of each country's continental shelf remains.

The continental shelf row and the presence of Turkish troops in northern Cyprus have been straining Greek-Turkish relations for several years.

The Aegean dispute has assumed added significance because of the oil wealth under the seabed.

The latest crisis eased after a Turkish research ship prospecting for oil in the Aegean stayed within Turkish waters Saturday and did not sail into the disputed area as had been initially planned.

Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou then withdrew a request to the United States to close down its telecommunications base north of Athens.

As the crisis intensified on Friday panics buying left supermarkets and shops in Athens without food and other goods.

It was the second time Greece and Turkey had come close to blows over oil rights in the Aegean. A similar crisis in 1976 again brought them to the brink of war.

Greece says the 2,500 islands in the Aegean — all but two of which it owns — have their own seabed and that this is backed up by the Law of the Sea and a 1958 Geneva Convention, neither of which Turkey has signed.

Athens has also declared that

international law gives it the right to extend the limit of its territorial waters to 12 miles from the current six. Turkey says this would be a cause for war.

In a speech to the cabinet on Friday, Mr. Papandreou accused Turkey of wanting to split the Aegean in half by threatening to conduct oil exploration in what it called the Greek continental shelf.

Mr. Papandreou has proposed to Ankara several times that they settle the continental shelf dispute at the International Court of Justice at the Hague. Turkey accuses Athens of attaching unacceptable preconditions to the proposal.

The latest row erupted after Greece said last month it planned to search for oil east of Thassos Island and Turkey announced it would conduct oil exploration round three Greek islands off its coast.

Greece announced its drilling plans after tabling a bill in parliament which would enable it to take control of a Canadian-led consortium operating off Thassos.

The consortium, North Aegean Petroleum Co. (NAPC) produces about 27,000 barrels of oil per day and sells most of it to the Greek state.

Greece relaxed in bright spring sunshine Sunday as tension eased after a two-day confrontation with Turkey which threatened to plunge both countries into war.

"In the end only the supermarket were actually attacked," was the rueful comment of Kathimerini newspaper.

Greeks also made a run on the banks, drawing out large amounts of cash for fear banks would close if hostilities broke out.

Some newspapers said Greece had emerged as winner from the crisis. "Turks with tails between their legs," said a headline in the pro-government Ethnos newspaper.

Other newspapers said the long-term dangers of the row with Turkey remained. The pro-government newspaper round three Greek islands off its coast.

Speaking from the steps of the private plane that brought him home from a stopover in London, Mr. Ozal referred only in passing to "that famous crisis saga" and said: "We turned the issue to our advantage."

Sheep were slaughtered in traditional Turkish greeting for an honoured guest as Mr. Ozal boarded a flowered bedecked bus for the crawl into Ankara along a route lined by thousands of cheering supporters of his conservative Motherland Party.

Mr. Ozal, 59, underwent a triple heart bypass operation in Houston, Texas, on Feb. 10 and on Sunday looked a little tired, though much slimmer than when he left Turkey 55 days ago.

The Turkish research ship Sisim 1, whose voyage was at the centre of the Aegean row, continued Sunday to take soundings for possible oil under the seabed. But it stayed in Turkish waters and its warship escort was pulled back.

Fears of an outbreak of fighting between the two sides was greatest in the Aegean islands near Turkey where extra Greek army, navy and air force units were sent, according to unofficial accounts.

The latest row erupted after Greece said last month it planned to search for oil east of Thassos Island and Turkey announced it would conduct oil exploration round three Greek islands off its coast.

Greece announced its drilling plans after tabling a bill in parliament which would enable it to take control of a Canadian-led consortium operating off Thassos.

Greece relaxed in bright spring sunshine Sunday as tension eased after a two-day confrontation with Turkey which threatened to plunge both countries into war.

"In the end only the supermarket were actually attacked," was the rueful comment of Kathimerini newspaper.

Greeks also made a run on the banks, drawing out large amounts of cash for fear banks would close if hostilities broke out.

Some newspapers said Greece had emerged as winner from the crisis. "Turks with tails between their legs," said a headline in the pro-government Ethnos newspaper.

Other newspapers said the long-term dangers of the row with Turkey remained. The pro-government newspaper round three Greek islands off its coast.

Speaking from the steps of the private plane that brought him home from a stopover in London, Mr. Ozal referred only in passing to "that famous crisis saga" and said: "We turned the issue to our advantage."

Sheep were slaughtered in traditional Turkish greeting for an honoured guest as Mr. Ozal boarded a flowered bedecked bus for the crawl into Ankara along a route lined by thousands of cheering supporters of his conservative Motherland Party.

Mr. Ozal, 59, underwent a triple heart bypass operation in Houston, Texas, on Feb. 10 and on Sunday looked a little tired, though much slimmer than when he left Turkey 55 days ago.

The Turkish research ship Sisim 1, whose voyage was at the centre of the Aegean row, continued Sunday to take soundings for possible oil under the seabed. But it stayed in Turkish waters and its warship escort was pulled back.

Fears of an outbreak of fighting between the two sides was greatest in the Aegean islands near Turkey where extra Greek army, navy and air force units were sent, according to unofficial accounts.

The latest row erupted after Greece said last month it planned to search for oil east of Thassos Island and Turkey announced it would conduct oil exploration round three Greek islands off its coast.

Greece announced its drilling plans after tabling a bill in parliament which would enable it to take control of a Canadian-led consortium operating off Thassos.

Greece relaxed in bright spring sunshine Sunday as tension eased after a two-day confrontation with Turkey which threatened to plunge both countries into war.

"In the end only the supermarket were actually attacked," was the rueful comment of Kathimerini newspaper.

Greeks also made a run on the banks, drawing out large amounts of cash for fear banks would close if hostilities broke out.

Some newspapers said Greece had emerged as winner from the crisis. "Turks with tails between their legs," said a headline in the pro-government Ethnos newspaper.

Other newspapers said the long-term dangers of the row with Turkey remained. The pro-government newspaper round three Greek islands off its coast.

Speaking from the steps of the private plane that brought him home from a stopover in London, Mr. Ozal referred only in passing to "that famous crisis saga" and said: "We turned the issue to our advantage."

Sheep were slaughtered in traditional Turkish greeting for an honoured guest as Mr. Ozal boarded a flowered bedecked bus for the crawl into Ankara along a route lined by thousands of cheering supporters of his conservative Motherland Party.

Mr. Ozal, 59, underwent a triple heart bypass operation in Houston, Texas, on Feb. 10 and on Sunday looked a little tired, though much slimmer than when he left Turkey 55 days ago.

The Turkish research ship Sisim 1, whose voyage was at the centre of the Aegean row, continued Sunday to take soundings for possible oil under the seabed. But it stayed in Turkish waters and its warship escort was pulled back.

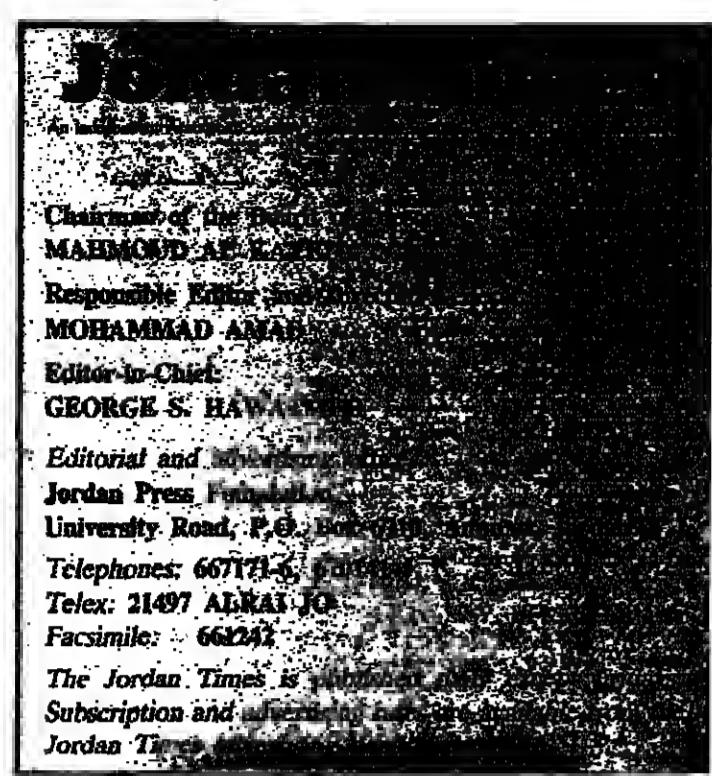
Fears of an outbreak of fighting between the two sides was greatest in the Aegean islands near Turkey where extra Greek army, navy and air force units were sent, according to unofficial accounts.

The latest row erupted after Greece said last month it planned to search for oil east of Thassos Island and Turkey announced it would conduct oil exploration round three Greek islands off its coast.

Greece announced its drilling plans after tabling a bill in parliament which would enable it to take control of a Canadian-led consortium operating off Thassos.

Greece relaxed in bright spring sunshine Sunday as tension eased after a two-day confrontation with Turkey which threatened to plunge both countries into war.

<p



Aegean dispute lives on

THE tension between Greece and Turkey have subsided — for the moment at least. After a couple of tense days, in which naval forces of both sides faced each other in the Aegean, international pressure and reason have luckily prevailed. We can only hope that the two sides can work out a long-term agreement over their territorial dispute to head off another such flare-up.

The present crisis began this week when Turkey threatened to send a ship to explore for oil in the disputed waters. This, Turkey claimed, was in response to a Greek declaration of its intention to drill for oil off Thassos Island, which Turkey claims is international waters. Escorted by Turkish warships, the Sismik 1, the oil exploration ship, set out from Ankara on Saturday, prompting the Greeks to mobilise their naval forces, and, at the same time, threaten to close an American base.

After some tense moments, and some pressure on Turkey from other NATO countries, especially the U.S., Ankara agreed not to press the issue and held back the Sismik 1. Greece reciprocated by assuring Turkey that an oil-consortium would not drill for oil and by withdrawing the threat of closing any American bases. Thus, a naval military clash was averted between two members of NATO.

The Greek-Turkish dispute over the Aegean goes back to the dissolution of the Ottoman empire and the founding of modern Greece and Turkey. The conflict flared up in 1976, leading to a truce under what was known as the Berne Agreement, which stipulates that "Athens and Ankara undertake to abstain from any initiative or act relating to the continental shelf of the Aegean Sea which might prejudice negotiations." These negotiations, however, have not succeeded in providing an agreement over the disputed waters.

Under the U.N. Law of the Sea, agreed upon in 1982, Greece claims a 12-mile limit around each of its 2,000 islands, a limit which according to Turkey gives Greece over 70 per cent of the Aegean. This, says Turkey, is unacceptable. Turkey has even threatened to go to war if Greece attempts to enforce the 12-mile limit. Thus, Greece's reported declaration of intent to drill for oil was, as Turkey saw it, an implicit attempt to enforce the limit. That cooler heads prevailed, and both sides refrained from pressing the issue, can only be applauded. We can only hope that the danger of confrontation has brought home to everyone involved, including NATO and the U.N., the need to reach a speedy and equitable solution to the Aegean disagreement. As we have just seen, the dispute can be ignored only at the great risk of war.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Words are not enough

IT seems from Israeli leaders' statements and continued manifestations of Tel Aviv's official policy of aggression on the Arabs that there is no imminent end to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Also the disarray in the ranks of the Arab countries makes the possibility of an imminent solution to the Middle East problem very far indeed. Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said Saturday that Israel was in no hurry for a solution with the Arab countries, and was only seeking direct negotiations with each one alone. There is really nothing in the Arab stand which can make Israel change its mind and accept the idea of an international conference which the Arabs continue to advocate. The present weak Arab situation and the lack of coordination of policies among Arab leaders prompt Israel to pursue its objectives and scoff at all Arab countries' ideas. The Arabs will continue to hear Shamir calling for direct negotiations and insisting that the Arabs hold direct talks with the Jewish state as long as they are disunited and weak and incapable of taking the initiative diplomatically or militarily.

Al Dustour: Diplomacy continues but...

IN a drive to secure the convening of the proposed international conference on the Middle East, Jordan continues its diplomatic offensive world-wide to enlist support and assistance from various countries. But it is clear that such a conference will have more value and can reach fruitful results, and the Arab causes can guarantee the backing of all world nations if the Arabs adopt a unified policy and unify their positions. Since all Arab states seek the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, their leaders should come to agreement on the proper approach for a lasting solution for the problem. There is indeed good indication that the international community is fully behind the idea of this conference, but the Arab position will win further weight if the Arabs are united and if their countries mobilise all their resources and their power to regain their rights and their lands. Jordan has been instrumental in securing the support of the European Community, and also other nations for the convening of the international conference. There is no doubt that Jordanian diplomacy will continue to move in this direction.

Sawt Al Shaab: Fishing in muddy waters

EVER since Syrian troops were deployed in west Beirut, their commanders realised that the move was not a mere picnic along the beach, but rather a hard mission intended to bring back peace to the embattled city. The Syrian troops entered the city in order to remove all forms of military presence in accordance with an agreement with local party leaders. The deployment was successful in that it secured an end to the factional fighting in the streets of Beirut and brought back peace and security to the city residents. The Syrians are now involved in implementing their second stage of action. They have called on the leaders of warring factions to meet together for a national reconciliation which is really required for a lasting settlement to the civil strife in Lebanon. But as the Syrians were busily trying to bring back peace and security, certain elements have been working in the dark, conspiring against the security of the country. These elements whose selfish interests have been damaged and endangered with the deployment of Syrian troops are Israeli and Iranian agents and their allies who want to continue to fish in muddy waters.

The struggle against war crimes goes on

By Dr. Waleed Sa'di

IT is certainly most gratifying for the cause of humanitarian law and human rights to learn that the federal government of Canada intends to take immediate measures to amend its criminal code in order to prosecute all persons found within its jurisdiction who are suspected of perpetrating "war crimes" or "crimes against humanity." This new and bold initiative by Canada, which came in the wake of the Deschenes Commission's report to the Canadian nation constituted to investigate files of some 250 Canadian citizens suspected of committing atrocities during World War II, heralds a new phase in the annals of the long struggle against war crimes and crimes against humanity and goes well beyond the scope and dimension of the Nazi war crimes which had played the pivotal and catalytic role in articulating, in the first place, the foundation for this new Canadian endeavour and served as a spring board for the crusade against such heinous crimes.

Now, one would rightfully expect other countries, especially those with high credentials in the general struggle for the promotion and protection of human rights, to follow suit and emulate Canada's determination and political will in the quest for the punishment and eradication of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

While we commend the Deschenes Commission for unleashing the forces for action in this domain and congratulate the federal government of Canada for its bold and swift reaction to the Commission's findings and recommendations, we must remind ourselves as well that much of Canada's action and reaction does not really go beyond its treaty obligations and the scope of relevant international law.

As a state party to the International Covenant of Civil and Political Rights and as a contracting party in the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide and the Convention on the Non-applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity, Canada has been all along treaty-bound to put these conventions into effect by legislative and other measures. It will be recalled that Article II of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, which entered into force back in 1951, clearly defines genocide as any act committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnic, racial or religious group by killing members thereof or causing serious bodily or mental harm to them or deliberately inflicting on them conditions of life calculated to bring about their physical destruction in whole or in part. Article III thereof prescribes that not only genocide per se is punishable but also the conspiracy, the intent, the attempt and the complicity to commit genocide are punishable as well under the convention.

Maybe Canada had these provisions in mind when it refused the accreditation of General Amos Yaron as Israel's military attaché in

Ottawa.

Seen from this vantage point of view, Canada was clearly treaty-bound to enact laws with a view to prosecute and punish persons found guilty of the crime of genocide which clearly encompasses as well the Nazi war crimes and other similar crimes against humanity committed in contemporary situations all over the world where human rights are systematically and grossly violated. Needless to say, such treaty obligations are over and beyond the other obligations established by other relevant international laws including those articulated and codified in the Charter of the International Military Tribunal at Nuremberg dated Aug. 8, 1945, and confirmed by the U.N. General Assembly Resolutions No. 3 (1) dated Feb. 13, 1946, and No. 95 (1) dated Dec. 11, 1946; as well as those provided for in the Geneva Conventions of 1949 for the protection of war victims; and by Protocols I and II to the said Geneva conventions which were formulated and adopted during the Geneva Diplomatic Conference in the years between 1974 and 1977. The said two protocols have contributed to the development of a new body of international customary law in the field of humanitarian law and one can argue that their principles and guidelines are applicable as well to the states which have refused to ratify them till this date.

What is really novel about Canada's pioneering steps in the quest for the proper apprehension, prosecution and punishment of war criminals and the perpetrators of crimes against humanity and go beyond the call of established international duty is its determination to prosecute such criminals when found within its territory and jurisdiction for crimes committed elsewhere. This bold Canadian intention to establish new precedents in this domain may be construed as repugnant to the letter if not the spirit of the relevant binding treaties or applicable body of international law. For example, Article VI of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of genocide clearly states that persons charged with genocide shall be tried in the territory of the state where the crime was committed or before an international tribunal. Article VII thereof comes out loud and clear on the point of extradition and declares that genocide shall not be construed as political crimes for purposes of extradition and that the contracting parties must grant extradition in accordance with their respective laws and treaty obligations.

Yet one can submit strong arguments in support of states which decide to exercise jurisdiction in situations where the crime of genocide or its like has been committed outside their territories if one keeps in perspective at all times the spirit of the relevant conventions and pertinent international law governing such cases which is no other than apprehending, prosecuting and punishing the guilty and preventing the occurrence of such crimes. The jurisdiction

of national issue may or may not have been intended to be a cardinal issue in the relevant conventions and treaties. One can certainly see and appreciate the difficulties that could arise from this contentious point and how conflict of interest can arise between states because of it. One would think that the federal government of Canada would be well advised if they proceed cautiously on this point and attempt to reconcile the differences which could arise between it and other countries which were or are rendered more directly affected by the commission of war crimes or crimes against humanity including genocide by virtue of the fact that the crimes occurred on their soil and against their respective peoples. Which state stands in a more propitious condition to provide effective penalties for the crimes in question as well as provide effective and meaningful remedies to the relatives of the victims of such crimes should guide governments in their collective search for effective punishment and remedies in cases involving war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The statute of limitation and its possible application to the cases at bar need not pose legal problems for the federal government of Canada in its new effort to bring the perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity to justice and accountability. The Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitation to war crimes and crimes against humanity which was adopted in 1968 and entered into force in 1975 resolves this point for all times, as far as Canada is concerned, by virtue of its ratification of the said Convention right from the beginning. That Convention clearly states in its first article that statutory limitation shall not apply to war crimes and crimes against humanity as defined in the Charter of the International Tribunal at Nuremberg and the Geneva Conventions of 1949. The Convention on the non-applicability of statutory limitations also prescribes in its second article that representatives of state authority and private individuals who as principals or accomplices participate in or incite others to commit such crimes or who conspire to commit them irrespective of the degree of their completion are also punishable. Also brought within the orbit of this convention are the representatives of state authority who even tolerate the commission of war crimes or crimes against humanity who are rendered punishable as well and for whom the statute of limitation is waived for all times and circumstances.

Thus, as we salute the federal government of Canada for its new declared policy and guidelines in the crusade against all war crimes and crimes against humanity no matter where and when they were or are committed, we must call on the rest of the international community to follow the example of Canada and endeavour to coordinate their efforts in this new and bold direction and pool their resources to put an end to all crimes against man no matter when or where or by whom they were committed.

Palestinian women under occupation organising against triple oppression

By Joost R. Hiltermann

A small union office: a desk, some chairs. A few men and women are drinking tea. "The Seafarers Union was established in 1958," the union secretary says. "We have 250 members, all of whom are employed in workshops here in town. 40 per cent of the members are women. They earn less than men: On average they take home 30' Jordanian dinars (about \$90) a month, while a man earns on average 80 dinars per month. This is because men produce more." A murmur rises from the women. A debate ensues between them and the union secretary. "It is because men have longer work experience," the unionist says, faltering. Then a young woman jumps up from her chair and says: "Now you see why we have set up women's committees!"

The woman's name is Samar Hawash, and she is a member of the administrative committee of the Nablus branch of the Palestinian Working Women's Committee (PWWC), one of the main organisations active on women's issues in the occupied territories. The original members of the Nablus committee were members of the Nablus Seafarers Union in 1977, but after 1980, when the PWWC was established on a national level, the women split off from the union to create an independent unit, although many of the committee members remain active in the union. The relationship between the union and the women activists is uneasy, since the union leadership is controlled by men who so far have displayed little understanding, or even willingness to try to understand, the particular problems women face both at home and at work.

The women activists' ambivalent attitude toward the male-dominated unions is a major theme in the development of the Palestinian women's movement, for while unions are recognised as geared toward defending workers' interests, they have not so far proved to be the appropriate vehicles for working women to defend their particular interests.

There has been no single strategy by women for dealing with their role in unions. In Nablus, the PWWC set up a committee of activists from the Seafarers Union, while continuing to work with the union, but in Ramallah, activists of the Union of Women's Work Committees (UWWC) encouraged women to join unions. About 150, led by the activists, did in fact join the Construction and General Workers Union. Says Amal Wahdan, a UWWC founding member who has been instrumental in the growth of the Palestinian union movement: "We helped push women into the unions. We set up a working women's committee inside the Ramallah Institutions Union, that is, we imposed it on them, but they accepted it because they had no access to working women."

In spite of the Israeli military occupation, the national issue is not necessarily at the top of the women's agenda. Obstacles to recruitment arise at a very basic social level: Many young women are not allowed to leave the immediate vicinity of their homes, let alone visit a committee or union office. In the village of Abu Dis near Jerusalem, for example, there is an active union and there are a number of sewing workshops predominantly employing women. Yet the union's efforts to recruit these women have been frustrated. Says Amal Wahdan who was active in Abu Dis in the early 1980s, and who is currently under house arrest in Al Bir: "We had a committee of working women, but because of

traditional obstacles, many women could not come to the union. But they would show up for union celebrations to which the whole village is invited... All of these women working in the textile shops [subcontracting for Israeli companies, some even producing yarmulkes for tourists] are unmarried. As soon as they get married they quit their job. Many women take jobs because they need to, but also because they have nothing else to do, and they do not want to stay inside the house. They get paid less than men because — this is the employers' argument — of the type of work they do, for example packing (at the Cigarette Company in Abu Dis)... At the TAKO tissue paper factory in Ramallah, we tried to attract women by inviting them to our women's committee's office, not to the union."

A PWC organiser in the Hebron area argued along similar lines: "We place the women's question before the national question. We focus all our activities on bringing the women out of their homes to make them more self-confident and independent. Once they believe in themselves, they will know that they can become leaders in any field they choose, including the military field. So if a woman first gains her own rights by breaking down her internal barriers, then in society at large, then after that she will also be able to deal with the occupation. A woman cannot fight the occupation if she is not even convinced that she has rights, for example the right to leave her house, for whatever reason."

During the UWWC conference, delegates affirmed their commitment to a "united, revolutionary and realistic" approach in the Palestinian movement under the leadership of the PLO. Delegates also denounced Israel's "iron fist" policy, especially the restrictions imposed on women activists and UWWC members. UWWC Secretary-General Sahira Kamal has been under house arrest in Jerusalem intermittently since 1980. In addition, five members of the UWWC executive committee have been forbidden to leave the country. Six UWWC members were prevented from attending the Nairobi women's conference in July 1985.

Until now, the women's committee in the West Bank have been spared the fate of other organisations under Israeli occupation, like break-ins and closures. The fact that most women organisers have been imprisoned so far from the repressive Israeli policies from which many men have suffered, including administrative detention and deportation, can be attributed in part to a belief among Israel's leaders that the women's groups do not yet command the streets in the occupied territories, and in part also to the strong support that the Palestinian women's groups enjoy abroad. Activists believe that as long as the inter-

Holland — haven for the oppressed — moves to curb influx of political asylum-seekers

By Roland de Ligny
The Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — This historic haven nation for the oppressed will cool its traditional warm welcome in hopes of fending off a flood of refugees seeking political asylum.

Following a Europe-wide trend, Dutch Premier Ruud Lubbers announced Friday that stipends for asylum-seekers would be drastically cut, and that the decision-making process on asylum requests would be sped up.

"We think that there is a direct link between the level of financial support and the size of the refugee influx," Lubbers told reporters.

The living allowance for those awaiting a decision on asylum will be cut by more than half to 450 guilders (\$225) a month. Lubbers said the government will still provide food and lodging.

He said the staff that evaluates asylum requests will be more than doubled. A decision can now take the government up to five years.

"It is hoped that the first shift, between those whose fears for persecution are genuine and those who come for economic reasons, will be completed in nine weeks," Lubbers said.

The new measures are expected to become effective next month, after a parliamentary debate in early April.

Lubbers stressed that what he called "bona fide" asylum-seekers would only benefit from the new system.

Because of its own Tamil influx, Britain began requiring visas in late 1985 for Sri Lankan nationals, despite their Commonwealth status, which had previously entitled them to visa-free entry.

The British restrictions checked the Tamil request rate, which had soared to 1,200 in the month of May 1985.

Britain also began requiring visas in 1986 for nationals of India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Ghana, also Commonwealth nations.

Last year Spain began deporting all undocumented aliens to a favela in which asylum-seekers arrive without papers to slow the expulsion procedure.

Until 1984, about 400 to 500 people sought asylum in The Netherlands a year.

But that year, thousands of Sri Lankan Tamils arrived, seeking asylum from what they said was persecution by the Sinhalese majority in their island nation.

"We have indications that not all of those coming to The Netherlands are bona fide asylum-seekers," Lubbers said last week.

Like some other Western European governments, the Dutch claim many modern-day refugees flee economic hardship, not political persecution.

In response to its 1984 influx, the Dutch government doubled from 250 to 500 its annual quota of

of resettlement invitations to refugees. Those candidates are selected by the U.N. The Dutch government decides all other cases, including uninvited arrivals like the Tamils.

Last December, the number of asylum-seekers jumped to about 1,000. In January it reached 1,100 then 1,300 in February, and 1,500 in the first three weeks of March.

The most significant increase was in nationals from Ghana, Zaire, and India.

Reflecting another Europe-wide problem, Lubbers said last week that the 13,000 refugees awaiting decisions on their asylum requests are a major drain on public resources for this nation of 14.6 million.

They currently get a monthly allowance of 900 guilders (\$475) plus room and board until their request is decided, justice minister spokesman Victor Holts said.

The number of asylum requests rejected has risen sharply here, with 70.9 per cent refused last year, compared to 57.8 in 1984, according to ministry figures.

After the Tamil influx, the government sent a special emissary to Sri Lanka last year. The emissary said Tamils could live safely in parts of Sri Lanka, despite its sectarian conflict.

The Dutch then expelled many Tamils and the number of arrivals declined sharply.

Western European nations are attracting tens of thousands of asylum-seekers yearly, many from former colonial possessions.

Because of its own Tamil influx, Britain began requiring visas in late 1985 for Sri Lankan nationals, despite their Commonwealth status, which had previously entitled them to visa-free entry.

"But we hope to stem the flow of economically motivated asylum-seekers, for the jungle drums will spread the word quickly," the premier said.

The Dutch tradition of asylum dates back to the 16th century, when thousands of Portuguese Jews fled the inquisition to Amsterdam.

They were followed by French Huguenots in the 17th century, Westphalians seeking prosperity in the 19th, and refugees from a variety of nations in modern times.

Last year Spain began deporting all undocumented aliens to a favela in which asylum-seekers arrive without papers to slow the expulsion procedure.

A total of 7,657 people sought political asylum there in 1985, mostly Cubans, Argentinians and Iranians.

A spokesman for the French Office for the protection of Refugees and Stateless People (OPERA), told the Associated Press that France has taken no measures aimed specifically at reducing the refugee tide. But France responded to its 1985-86 spate of bombing attacks by wholesale expulsions of illegal aliens



"Platoon" — the film and its actor are the talk of Hollywood

Dafoe of 'Platoon' breaks the mould

By Aly Sujo
Reuter

NEW YORK — Willem Dafoe came to his highly praised performance as an American fighting man in the Vietnam war film "Platoon" via screen portrayals of a counterfeiter, a drifter and similar roles.

Dafoe has been nominated for an Oscar as best supporting actor for his portrayal of Elias, the sergeant in the film.

The raspy-voiced high-cheeked 32-year-old arrived in New York City in 1977 to look for work in the theatre.

Traditional off-broadway fare seemed insubstantial, he recalled in an interview with Reuters, but the visionary Wooster Group (named after a street in the New York neighbourhood of Soho that artists frequent) caught his attention. So did its director, Elizabeth Lécompte, with whom he now lives and works.

In the 1980s, the Wooster Group evolved into the city's leading avant-garde troupe, and a number of its artists headed for the cultural mainstream.

Dafoe's first film roles as a counterfeiter ("To Live and Die in L.A."), a drifter ("Roadhouse"), and a villainous biker ("Streets of Fire") led to a host of similar roles.

"It got to the point where I'd receive a script and I could look at the title and turn to page 4 and know just what was on it: 'shoot such-and-such in the face. Page 12: 'throw little girl down the

stairs,' and so on," he said. In "Platoon," Dafoe broke the mould.

The film, with its conflict between Dafoe's "Good" sergeant and his murderous rival (played by Tom Berenger,) is brimming with Christian imagery, including Elias's climatic martyrdom.

Yet the actor is sceptical of the film's much-vaunted naturalism, and the impact it is said to have had.

"When the critics implied that 'Platoon' was accurate in its detail and not hoked up too much, a weird kind of moral obligation was created," he said.

"People who had not been in Vietnam wanted to see the film. And when they did, they felt as if they'd been there."

"And of course I'm cynical enough to say 'No, baby, you weren't,'" he added. "It's only a movie, a flickering light on the screen."

And Dafoe himself is expected to contract with 20th Century Fox for the lead role in "Saigon," a detective mystery set in Vietnam during the 1960s, his management said.

Meanwhile, Dafoe said, he continues to work in alternative theatres, and is philosophical about his current success.

He does not see the popularity of "Platoon" — often hailed as the antidote to "Rambo" — as politically significant.

"You have to remember that this is a popular success," he says. "Hollywood is a business. And if the theatre-going audience is running one way, Hollywood's going to run to catch it."

Yet he doesn't wholly dismiss the "Platoon" phenomenon.

(See related story page 12)

Carter: Arafat could conditionally recognise Israel

(Continued from page 1)

Palestinians or even so that he can designate someone to represent him as a spokesman," Mr. Carter said.

Distrust between the Palestinians and the Israelis, Mr. Carter said, was "a matter that can only be overcome in my judgment by a comprehensive approach which is now possible... through an international peace conference."

He said Syria and Jordan would now be willing to negotiate under the auspices of such a conference, a change which he called "a very significant move forward in the last year or so."

Mr. Carter also said his meetings with Hafez Al Assad convinced him the Syrian president did not know where the eight American hostages in Lebanon were currently being held or by whom; but that Mr. Assad would do what he could to obtain their release.

"I think Assad sees for his own selfish benefit any progress that he can make in identifying, locating and helping to extract American hostages would be a great feather in his hat," Mr. Carter said.



Jimmy Carter

Strip and Israeli attitudes towards the PLO." He declined to give details.

Asked whether Mr. Carter had urged Israel to negotiate with the PLO, Prof. Rabinovitch said: "Not directly and explicitly but I think it's implicit in his position."

Commenting on the situation in the occupied territories, Mr. Carter said he believed peace negotiations were the only way to end the tensions in Hebron, other parts of the West Bank and the occupied Gaza Strip.

Even Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose Congress Party was again rejected by West Bengal's 35 million voters, has words of praise for Basu.

Friede and fo alike admire the energy and pragmatism of the 73-year-old Marxist leader who will this week become the first non-Congress chief minister to assume office for a third successive five-year term.

Basu has endeared himself to millions of landless peasants by giving them tenancy rights, while the welcome he has extended to multinational corporations and large private companies is helping

Experts pursue battle against rabies

By Andy Crump

LONDON, England — Rabies, in its full form, is one of the few diseases for which there is still no cure. It is also a perfect example of the double standards and the differences in attitude and deployment of resources that exist between the industrialised and developing worlds.

Fresh attention is being focused on rabies at present, partly because trials of a new live vaccine are being promoted and partly because a genetically-engineered vaccine has been tried in the field without proper clearance.

Few countries in the world are totally free from rabies, though Britain is one. The disease is endemic in about 100 countries and territories. It is transmitted to humans through the bite of infected animals. In about 90 countries, rabies persists in the most dangerous reservoir host: dogs. Dog rabies, transmitted through dog bites, accounts for 98 per cent of all human deaths from the disease.

According to a report from the World Health Organisation (WHO), each year there are over five and a half million post-exposure treatments for humans who have been bitten by potentially rabid animals. But Dr. Landeg of the United Kingdom's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food believes there is a considerable under-reporting of cases.

If treated early, the disease can be prevented. But the treatment and the vaccine needed for it cost money. Poorer nations are unable to provide the necessary health care and this is reflected in the WHO mortality figures. Mortality rates, expressed as deaths per thousand animal cases, are: Africa 82.7, Asia 35.8, Latin America 10.7, North America 0.5 and Europe 0.3.

The WHO has recommended various methods for controlling rabies, the most effective of which is prophylactic vaccination. In most developing countries, notably in large towns, there is a large and growing population of stray dogs, which form the most dangerous source of infection. Efforts to curtail these dogs have slowed down or even halted, due to lack of funds.

However, some countries have now diverted their efforts and resources into the expensive process of vaccinating people who have been bitten by rabid animals. Each year, out of every million inhabitants in a given country, at least 2,000 receive anti-rabies injections. The cost of medical services is enormous and many nations do not have enough vaccine or the facilities to treat all those who have been bitten.

The WHO has declared that vaccinating bitten people is neither the best nor the most economical way to tackle the problem, and recommends reducing the population of stray dogs as the simplest way of stopping transmission of the disease.

In Europe, dogs have been strictly controlled for years, so dog rabies has been virtually eliminated. Pets can be safely vaccinated by injection, and can be monitored regularly. Consequently, foxes have become the main vectors of the disease in Europe. Despite the fact that 1.25 million foxes are killed each year, there were over 19,000 cases of human rabies in 1985.

However, a new oral vaccine has been produced which has proved effective with foxes. This means that wild foxes in Europe could in principle be inoculated by leaving doctored food in their habitat. Tests of the new vaccine have been carried out in Switzerland, West Germany and Canada, so far with success.

The vaccine uses a live, attenuated form of the rabies virus. As the virus is comparatively unstable, some concern has been voiced that the vaccine could cause rabies to occur in target animals that eat the food left for the foxes.

In Latin America, ministers of agriculture have agreed to try to bring rabies under control by prophylactic vaccination. In most developing countries, notably in large towns, there is a large and growing population of stray dogs, which form the most dangerous source of infection. The vaccine bats also transmit the

India's Marxist leader proves his popularity

By Ajoy Sen
Reuter

NEW DELHI — He is stern, smiling, and in his simple cotton attire he looks more like a humble village school teacher than a revolutionary.

Yet Jyoti Basu, the Marxist chief minister of India's West Bengal State, has again demonstrated that he is a political force to be reckoned with.

On March 25 he led his Communist Party of India (CPI-M) to victory in state assembly elections, ensuring he stays in the office which he first assumed in 1977.

Even Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose Congress Party was again rejected by West Bengal's 35 million voters, has words of praise for Basu.

Even Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, whose Congress Party was again rejected by West Bengal's 35 million voters, has words of praise for Basu.

Friede and fo alike admire the energy and pragmatism of the 73-year-old Marxist leader who will this week become the first non-Congress chief minister to assume office for a third successive five-year term.

Basu has endeared himself to millions of landless peasants by giving them tenancy rights, while the welcome he has extended to multinational corporations and large private companies is helping

poorest states.

"Rapid industrialisation can alone stamp out rampant poverty and unemployment," he said.

Opening a foreign-owned fertilizer plant near Calcutta earlier this year, Basu said: "I, being a Communist, am being very frank: It will be foolish not to support capitalist multinationals if they work within the rules of the country's mixed economy."

"I don't want my state to become an industrial desert," he said.

A Calcutta businessman said he favoured the Marxists because their labour unions worked hard to make a success of a labour pact once it had been signed.

The businessman said Basu: "He is loved by the poor, he is needed by the rich."

Basu has never disguised his interest in a wider role in national politics.

"We can't bring about Socialism or any fundamental change in the country unless we can be in power at the centre," he said.

For the CPI-M this still appears a distant dream, although this week's elections brought it a step closer when they added Kerala in the south to West Bengal and Tripura in the north-east, giving them control of three of India's 24 states for the first time.

Randa Habib's Corner

Spare the weathermen

I THINK we are all being unfair with the Meteorology Department. What is the big deal if they announce a sunny Friday and good visibility and encourage vacationers to go down to the Ghor when, in fact, it rains on that day with very bad visibility. Let be without mistake cast the first stone. After all, when our weatherman says it will snow, doesn't it, though one week later? But the important thing is that it does eventually snow.

I think despite all the criticism and the jokes that go around and the obvious scepticism with which everybody takes the weather bulletin, we should support our Meteorology Department. God knows they are doing their best. Take for example last Sunday's accurate forecast — a real cocktail of everything. The weatherman said we would be affected by a cold depression that will be followed by a rise in temperature and in some areas the weather will be sunny "at times" and cloudy "at others". Isn't that great? So, when on Sunday morning we had a beautiful sun, the weatherman was right, as he had told us it would be "sunny at times". As for "scattered rains," well, he had told us it would be in "some areas." In other words, how do we know that it did not rain in other areas, other cities, or even other countries?

As for clouds, if one looked well, he is bound to find some, somewhere in the sky. I tell you, these guys know what they are doing. At least we have to give them credit for playing it safe. Now, stop talking of cold winds being smuggled outside the country, or stopped at the borders, and all other nasty jokes such as the one about the bedouins and their weather forecasting methods. Be kind to our Meteorology Department. After all, if anything, they have taught us never to take things at face value.

Court ruling to sterilise retarded girl stirs row

By Alan Elsner
Reuter

LONDON — A British court decision ordering the sterilisation of a 17-year-old girl with a mental age of five has set off an emotional debate — with some critics

saying it evoked echoes of compulsory sterilisation under the Nazis.

But couples with mentally handicapped children have come forward to put the case in favour of the operation.

The appeal court, considering an application from the Sunderland local council in north east England, ruled that the girl, identified only as "Jeanette," should be sterilised to protect her from pregnancy and child bearing.

The girl is in the care of the council and a ward of the court, but her parents also supported the operation because she was "showing signs of sexual awareness and sexual drive."

Although sterilisation involved taking away a basic human right, loss of that right would mean nothing to the girl and the prospect of her becoming pregnant was "frightening," the court said.

The operation has been delayed until the case can be considered by Britain's highest court, the House of Lords. But the affair has already led to charges from legal experts and groups dealing with the mentally handicapped that it was inhuman and set a dangerous precedent.

"This girl has been treated in an animal-like way and, out to put too fine a point on it, she will be spayed like a bitch," said Sir Brian Rix, secretary-general of Mencap, a charity for the mentally handicapped.

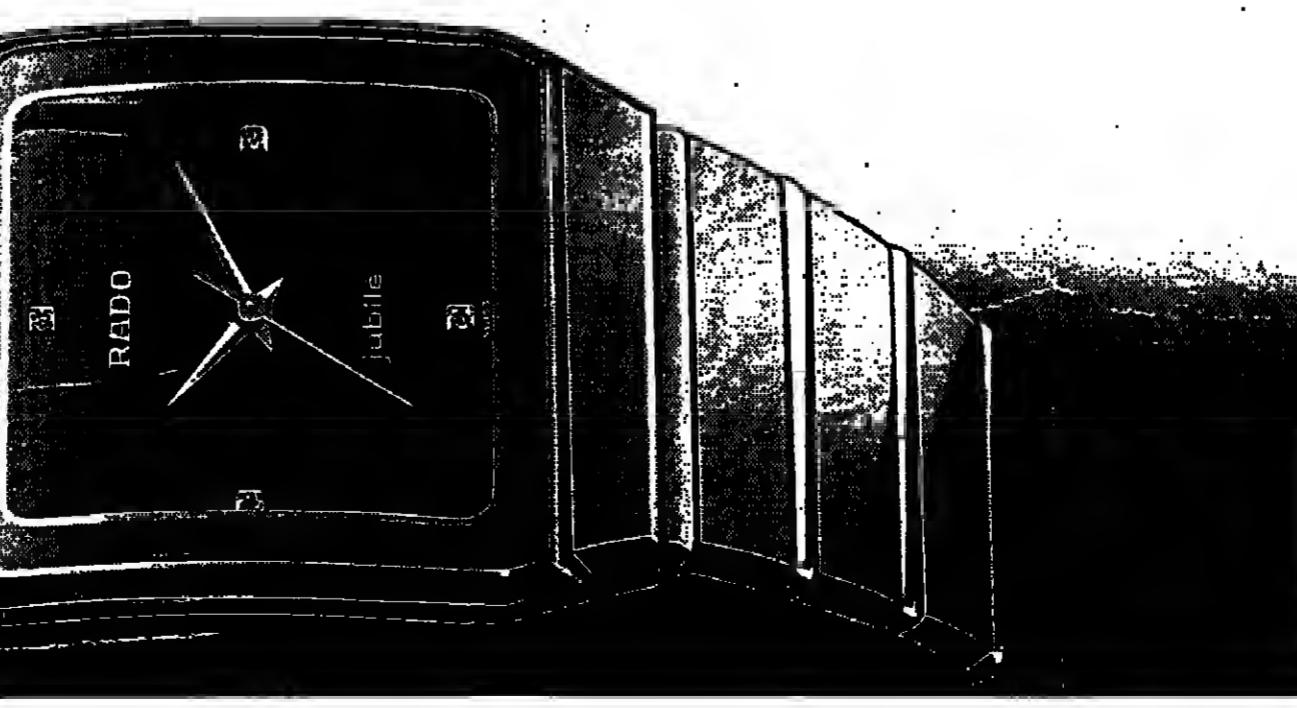
According to Mencap, about 20 operations were awaiting the outcome of the current case. Doctors have been reluctant to operate on mentally handicapped people because of the possible legal consequences, according to the Medical Defence Union, an organisation which provides doctors with legal advice.

In its ruling, the appeal court said all future sterilisation operations of minors would require the permission of the courts. Girls over the age of 18 have to consent to the procedure themselves. Jeanette herself turns 18 in May.

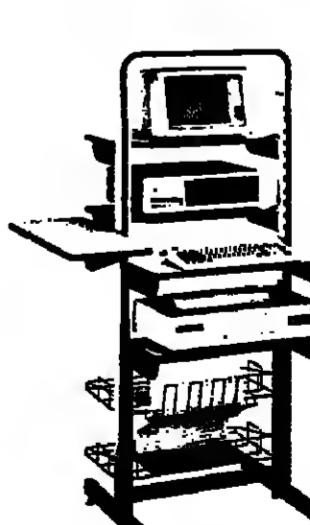
The anatomic solution.

RADO DiaStar «Anatom»

Mod. dép. Swiss Made
available in ladies' and men's size.



**Micropact : the right place
for your micro-computer**



"Stylish curves and angles" : that is

MICROPACT

Everything is at hand, all the elements of your micro-computer within easy reach and in less than half a square meter of floor-space. You can adapt it to your needs, whether working standing up or sitting down, set it at the required height. If you wish to save space with style, then give your micro-computer its right little place!

MICROPACT

VAL-REX

Authorized Dealer

tesco 

Office Equipment and Supplies

Main branch: Tla' Al-Al-Gardens St. - Tel: 678145

Showroom: Jabal Amman - Prince Mihd St. - Tel: 62298

Arab Bank Ltd.

Dear Shareholders,

I note with great pleasure that at the end of August 1986, I had completed fifty years of continuous service with the Arab Bank, and I thank God who gave me the strength and power to carry out my duties during that long period. As you know, the main credit goes to the Founder, the late Abdulhameed Shoman, whose ceaseless efforts and wide guidance enabled us to overcome the numerous difficulties encountered and to build up the worldwide reputation and the strong position which the Bank now enjoys. This institution started as a mere dream in his mind and was brought to reality through his determination and dedication before his death in 1974. Although happy with the institution he had established, he died with sadness in his heart since his country, Palestine, especially Holy Jerusalem was under enemy occupation.

It is our duty to carry on hard work, in his footsteps, and expand the activities of the institution in every Arab country which allows us to do so, and in other countries wherever feasible. It is gratifying that the Arab Bank is now the widest-spread Arab institution in the world, with branches and subsidiaries throughout the five continents.

As you will note in the Directors Report, 1986 witnessed a further expansion of your institution in the Far East, Western Europe and the Middle East.

The Arab Bank Group balance sheet shows that Total Assets have increased by 7.2% reaching US\$ 12.7 billion at the end of 1986.

The Total Assets of Arab Bank Limited reached more than JD 3,187 million and Deposits over JD 2,977 million; this is in spite of the fact that around 70% of Deposits are denominated in US\$, and the dollar decreased in value against the JD and the main currencies. Net Profit for appropriation and distribution amounted to JD 23.5 million, of which JD 15.8 million was allocated to the Reserves as detailed in the Profit and Loss Account. The Board of Directors has recommended the distribution of JD 7.7 million as dividends at the rate of JD 3.5 per share (35% of the share nominal value). These results are indeed quite satisfactory when we take into consideration the present economic situation in our region, the decrease in the dollar value and the drop of interest rates. The Iraq-Iran war, which entered its seventh year, also had an extensive impact, causing substantial losses in health and life in the two countries. Austerity policies were followed by the governments in the countries in the region, and this will continue. The banking sector was also adversely affected as reflected in its results and the growing volume of bad debts, which forced the central banks and monetary agencies to extend aid to some banks and intensify supervisory measures and restrictions, especially regarding facilities to customers.

The world economy continued to face many difficulties. Although the industrial countries were able to control inflation which had dominated the monetary system for fifteen years, they still suffer from high unemployment and imbalances in their foreign accounts, causing tension and instability. Furthermore, their economic growth was moderate and not sufficient to boost the economy of the Third World.

The economies of most developing countries have worsened with prices of their raw materials decreasing to the lowest level since the 2nd World War, and with their indebtedness increasing and rendering them unable to compete in the international markets and to develop their economies. Without sufficient aid from the developed nations, the position of the developing countries will continue to worsen and will reflect badly on the international trade and economy. Now that the industrial countries have saved substantial amounts, exceeding US\$ 100 billion, from the large decrease in oil prices, they are able more than before to extend help and aid to the needy countries of the Third World so that these countries may solve their problems, thus advancing world stability as a whole.

Besides the economic and political problems in the world, pollution of the environment has become a growing threat to life on our planet. Man, animals and plants have become subjected to the hazards of radiations from nuclear generators, to the harmful products of chemical industries, the nitrates of fertilizers intensively used in agriculture which pollute river and subterranean waters, the acid rain which destroys forests, and the smoke of vehicles and factories in and near large cities. All these pollute the environment and must be confronted through regional global cooperation.

The Arab world has unfortunately shown neither sufficient cooperation nor practical economic integration. It should exploit in a more efficient way its vast potentialities of manpower, material resources and strategic position, and facilitate movement of capital and labour force throughout the Arab countries to enhance development. Some Asian countries like China and India which a few years ago were importers of foodstuff have now become food exporters as a result of encouragement to agriculture and farmers, giving them incentives and finding new markets for their products. By contrast, importation of food by the Arab world is on the increase in spite of its immense agricultural potentialities.

We would like to repeat the points in our Annual Reports, because we feel that the situation is becoming continually worse. We hope that Arab leaders and nations will join together in the face of the imminent dangers in order to improve their situation and reinforce their rights and the occupied territories.

Abdulmajeed Shoman
Chairman, Board of Directors

Balance Sheet as of 31 December 1986

Assets	1986 US\$	1985 JD	Liabilities	1986 US\$	1985 JD
Cash in hand and at banks	5,764,864,843	1,742,211	Deposits & other liabilities	16,046,226	2,977,195,691
Items in transit	547,813,475	163,117,100	Acceptances	45,818,503	16,761,988
Bonds (government & other)	35,561,231	10,604,157	Items in Trans.	123,300,218	21,780,790
Investments (incl. subsidiaries)	259,957,450	891,360,416	Capital authorized (and fully paid up) JD 10 per share	13,985,000	22,000,000
Bills discounted	2,923,470	19,464,740	Statuted Reserves	53,998,000	22,000,000
Loans	31,536,838	10,841,127	General Reserve	203,630,000	70,000,000
Bank premises (less depreciation)	17,286,057	5,946,393	Voluntary Reserve	93,088,000	32,000,000
Furniture & equipment (less depreciation)	48,616,803	16,761,968	Undivided profit	53,525,600	16,400,000
Customers' liability on acceptances	57,569,343	19,790,080	Net profit (for distribution)	22,442,062	7,714,700
Other Assets	9,273,523,046	3,167,873,169	Total Liabilities	9,273,523,048	3,167,873,169
Total Assets	9,273,523,046	3,167,873,169	Guarantees and credits (per contra)	1,699,236,784	584,131,586
Customers' liability on guarantees and credits (per contra)	1,699,236,784	584,131,586	Balance Sheet Total	10,972,761,832	3,772,004,755
Balance Sheet Total	10,972,761,832	3,772,004,755			

Profit and Loss Account for the year 1986

	1986 JO	1985 JD
Operation Income		
Interest received	303,255,202	351,295,280
Less: Interest paid	271,547,710	317,796,904
Net Interest	31,707,492	33,498,376
Commissions	11,080,358	10,375,192
Income from exchange	8,169,535	6,076,779
Income from securities	10,635,713	13,406,001
Other Income	5,250,584	2,935,140
Total Income	66,843,882	66,291,488
Operation Expenses & Provisions		
Salaries and fringe benefits	19,801,162	20,312,448
Depreciation	1,431,132	1,956,677
Taxes	2,720,384	3,901,122
Other expenses	19,376,304	15,107,291
Total Expenses	43,328,982	41,277,538
Net profit for appropriation	23,514,700	25,013,950
Undivided profit	17,100,000	15,100,000
Total	40,614,700	40,113,950
Deduct:		
Transfer to statutory reserve	—	2,300,000
Transfer to general reserve	10,000,000	8,000,000
Transfer to voluntary reserve	4,600,000	5,000,000
Dividends	7,700,000	7,700,000
Director's remuneration	14,700	13,950
Balance of undivided profit	16,400,000	17,100,000

Khalid A.H. Shoman

Deputy Chairman

Abdulmajeed A.H. Shoman

Chairman

Auditor's Report

To the Shareholders of Arab Bank Limited

accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records kept at the bank's head office and branches and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances and to the extent allowed by the laws in force in the countries where the bank is operating.

We have examined the balance sheet of the Arab Bank Limited (a Jordanian public shareholding company) as of 31 December 1986 and 1985 and the related statement of profit and loss and statement of changes in financial position for the years then ended. We have obtained the information and explanations which to the best of our knowledge and belief were necessary for the purpose of our audit.

The bank maintains proper books and records and the accompanying financial statements are in agreement therewith.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally

position of Arab Bank Ltd. as of 31 December 1986 and 1985 and the results of its operations and the changes in its financial position for the years then ended, in conformity with the law and with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year. We recommend that the General Assembly approve these financial statements and adopt the proposal of the Board of Directors to declare a dividend of JD 3.500 per share.

Saba & Co.

Amman, Jordan, 17 January 1987.

Board of Directors' 57th Annual Report

For the year ended 31 December 1986, submitted to the General Assembly of Shareholders at the Annual General Meeting held at the Bank's Head Office Building, Shmalsani, Amman, at 10.00 a.m. Friday, 27 March 1987.

Dear Shareholders,

While most industrial countries have achieved some stability and moderate rates of growth without inflation, the growth rate of the heavily indebted countries of the Third World has receded to almost half that of the previous year. On the whole, most countries in the world continued to face difficulties at different levels as shown in the following résumé.

The Jordan Economy

Jordan continued to adapt its economy to the stagnation which started in the area in the early eighties. Arab economic aid to Jordan during the nine months of 1986 dropped to JD 135 million from JD 190 million in the same period of 1985. Remittances from the Jordanian expatriates have stabilized, and amounted to JD 217 million in the first half of 1986, slightly above the JD 196 million during the same period in the previous year. In 1986 more workers were repatriated, as they have become redundant in the oil countries, and unemployment in Jordan went up to about 8% and is expected to increase in the coming few years due to the major economic and social problems. To be able to cope with this situation and to partly compensate for the loss of foreign exchange earnings, the Jordanian Government concentrated on increasing the volume of Jordanian exports by exempting them from income tax, raising custom dues on imported goods of the types that are produced locally and stopping importation of luxury goods or increasing the dues on them. To encourage investment, it has treated Arab investment capital as Jordanian, made changes in the monetary and fiscal policies so as to encourage the private sector to take the initiative and play a greater role in the development of the economy, especially in agriculture where the cultivated areas have increased and the production per dunum has improved as a result of modern methods being introduced. The Government has also secured sufficient liquidity and preserved a stable rate of exchange for the Jordanian dinar against other currencies in the local and Arab money markets.

In order to face the probable continuity of the economic slowdown in the first year (1986) and the following years of the five-year plan (1986-1990), a policy of adjustment and adaptation to the economic development in the area was followed by the Government. Economic activities are closely interconnected throughout the area, especially the Jordanian market which is closely related to the neighbouring Arab markets both in trade and labour. The adaptation policy will continue until the time when the economic slowdown is over and growth is resumed at the previous normal rates.

G.N.P. totalled JD 1,581 million at market price in 1986, representing an increase of 6.1% over 1984. The trade balance registered a deficit of JD 454 million during the first three quarters of 1986 as compared with JD 520 million in the same period of 1985. Exports of potash, cement, phosphates

and fertilizers registered a decrease. The level of prices kept stable and the inflation rate of about 3% in 1985 dropped to about 1.2%, the lowest since the end of the sixties.

In spite of stagnation and other adverse conditions, the Jordanian economy was run with good management together with adequate monetary, fiscal and tax policies which enabled Jordan to enjoy a good financial reputation in the money markets and to borrow without difficulties from those markets.

Arab Economy

For the economy of the other Arab countries, 1986 was also one of the most difficult years of the decade to date. It has witnessed severe economic and social crises accompanied by political unrest and security problems, which must be confronted with practical measures on the regional and national levels.

The major factor causing the economic crisis is the sharp drop of the oil prices from an official rate of US\$ 34 a barrel in 1982 to US\$ 22 in 1985 and to less than US\$ 14 for a barrel during 1986. At the meeting held at the end of the year, OPEC re-extended its previous agreement regarding the production quotas assigned to the member states until the end of the year. A committee was set up to study the stabilization of prices and the means to raise them to US\$ 18 per barrel as from the beginning of 1987. To realize this, OPEC agreed to reduce total production from 17 million to 15.5 million barrels per day, and production ceilings of the members were revised accordingly. It is proved, with the exception of Iraq, which requested its share to be raised.

The large increase in the value of the dollar made things worse for the oil exporters, as it is the currency usually used for the pricing of oil and most items of international trade. In February 1985 it was DM 3.31 and 250 Japanese yen, and at the end of 1986 it dropped to DM 1.92 and 158 yen representing decreases of 42% and 38% respectively. Furthermore, the Iraq-Iran war has entered its seventh year without any signs of a solution, and continued to affect the situation of the whole region and the world stability.

As a result of all these factors, the revenue of the Arab oil-exporting countries dropped from a peak of US\$ 216 billion in 1980 to US\$ 117 billion in 1984, US\$ 95 billion in 1985 and US\$ 65 billion in 1986. Those countries experienced deficits in their balance of payments and were forced to draw from their foreign currency reserves and to borrow from the international money markets. Economic activity slowed down, the execution of many new projects was stopped as governments adopted austerity policies reducing their expenditures and cutting down the allocations for the five-year development plans; this has affected importers, contractors and the banking sector which became overburdened with bad debts and suffered from a decrease in activities and profits.

Aid from the oil exporters to the neighbouring countries dropped gradually from US\$ 8.3 billion in 1981 to US\$ 4 billion in 1985. The latter countries found themselves compelled to depend more on foreign sources to finance their deficits, and total Arab indebted-

ness exceeded US\$ 100 billion by the end of 1985.

An important result of the economic stagnation in the Arab oil-exporting countries was its negative effect on the Arab labour force moving across the borders to wherever needed and estimated at four million persons. These labourers contributed during the boom period to the economic development of the oil countries as well as their own countries which benefited from their substantial remittances in foreign currencies and had lower unemployment rates. As early as 1982 when the oil countries started to control their expenditures and restrict their new projects, they ceased to import foreign labour, and soon after, the flow of labourers was reversed towards their countries of origin which may cause serious unemployment problems and a drop in foreign currency reserves.

Perhaps the most serious problem resulting from the continuation of the oil crisis and the existence of bottle-necks and lack of priorities in the Arab economic structure is the continuously increasing food deficits in the Arab countries to the extent that some countries, like Sudan, cannot import and the others are still in the process of developing their cultivable agricultural land. Sudan exceeds 11 million hectares. In 1984 the Arab countries imported foodstuff for about US\$ 23 billion, whereas their food exports amounted to only US\$ 3 billion and the deficit is on the increase.

World Economy

Contrary to expectations, the economic activity in most industrial countries, particularly industrial production, has been somewhat sluggish during 1986. Major countries including the United States, faced the further erosion of the prices of primary commodities, the substantial drop in the US\$ value and the decline in international interest rates and expected to have a negative impact on the world economy. By the end of the year their effects began to boost the economy of some developed countries and will pick up more as domestic demand responds to lower interest rates and higher real income.

Economic growth of those countries on the whole was moderate at an average of about 2.7% for Europe, 3.2% for Japan, and 3.0% for the United States. However, it was uninflationary, and will continue as a sustained growth only if the large imbalances in trade are redressed. Presently the United States is suffering from an increasing deficit in its trade balance; this deficit increased from 123 billion dollars in 1984 to 148 billion in 1985 and 170 billion in 1986. The United States current account was US\$ 123 billion in deficit in 1986, whereas Japan had a surplus of US\$ 83 billion and West Germany a surplus of US\$ 36 billion. There is also a serious deficit in the United States Federal Budget, which has increased to 220 billion dollars in 1986. In order to alleviate such imbalances, the big industrial countries held meetings in September 1985 and May 1986 and agreed to take the necessary measures to decrease interest and exchange rates of the dollar so as to help the United States compete with Japan and West Germany by an increase in exports. As a result, the interest rate on the dollar fell during the year

from 8.25% to 6%, and the value of the dollar fell from 2.5 DM to about 1.92 DM and from 200 Japanese yen to about 158 yen by the end of the year. The United States continued, however, to put pressure on Japan and Germany to lower their interest rates and activate their economies and domestic demand so that American exports could increase. Japan decreased its discounts rate from 3.5% to 3.0%.

Unemployment remained a disturbing factor in the industrial countries, especially in Europe, where average unemployment was 11% compared with 7% in the United States.

Those developments have had negative effects on the economies of oil-exporting countries, whose revenues decreased by about US\$ 100 billion, forcing them to review their positions and cut down the allocations for their development plans.

As to the developing nations, the growth rate of some heavily indebted countries has decreased by half. Per capita income of some countries in East Asia increased by about 20% since 1980, whereas in the Middle East, Africa and Latin America it has decreased.

Oil-importing countries have benefited from the decreases in oil prices, international interest rates and the value of the dollar, but nevertheless a 17% real drop in the prices of their primary commodities, which registered a record post-war low. Furthermore, customs duties and trade barriers impeded the export of those commodities. But the industrial nations imposed upon reasonable prices for imported commodities to relax their trade barriers and restrictions, they would have helped the developing countries much more effectively by the loans they can also the subsidies of the developed nations. Their exports of agricultural products reflected negatively on the agriculture of the developing nations. Industrial countries should help in developing agriculture in the Third World, whether through the advancement of scientific research or through the enhancement of agricultural production. More help should come not only from governments of industrial countries, but also from the International Institutions and the private commercial establishments through larger investment and adjustment loans and guidance at a scale sufficient to enable the developing nations to achieve reasonable economic growth and settle their debts and debt services. Adequate increases should be made in the financial potencies of the World Bank to increase its investment loans, of the I.M.F. to be more able to extend adjustment aid and the correction of balances of payments, and of the I.D.A. to give more long-term loans at low interest rates to the poor countries burdened with debts and facing difficulties in obtaining financing from the money markets and governments. Such countries should also be allowed to have more access to the special drawing rights at the I.M.F. The developing countries themselves must take an active part in solving their problems.

They should make necessary adjustments in their monetary and fiscal policies, control their expenditures and create incentives for savings and investments, both domestic and foreign. Encouraging levels of interest rates, reasonable exchange rates of their currencies, revised tax laws, relaxation of trade barriers and finding new markets for their exports are important incentives. An active and prosperous private sector would attract foreign investors and encourage them to capitalize a part of their funds and lending as investments in some local establishments and projects.

Comments on important items in the 1986 Financial Statements

In spite of the relatively weak world economy and the stagnation of the Arab economy, the figures of the balance sheet of your Institution have not decreased; on the contrary Total Assets have registered an increase over 1985.

Such an increase has been realized even though the exchange rates of the currencies of the branches outside Jordan against the Jordanian dinar, our reporting currency, have decreased to an extent never recorded in the previous years. The dinar has appreciated from US\$ 2.72 to US\$ 2.91 or a 7.4% increase, from £ Stg. 1.89 to £ Stg. 1.98 or a 4.6% increase and from about 49 to 253 Lebanese Liras, representing a 414% increase. Such increases have negative effects on the figures of those branches when converted into JD for compilation purposes, and lead to apparent decreases in the items of the combined balance sheet, especially as about 70% of Deposits and Cash at Banks are in foreign currencies, mainly US\$.

Notwithstanding all this, Deposits reached JD 2,977 million in 1986 compared with JD 2,903 million in 1985. These funds are mostly invested for periods matching those of the Deposits. The decrease in Loans from JD 149.8 million to JD 940.8 million is the result of the drop in the exchange rates, the economic slowdown and more caution on our part in granting facilities. These conditions have adversely affected trade and contracting activities, and hence the decrease in Documentary Credits by JD 8.8 million and in Letters of Guarantee by JD 42.4 million.

Cash and Balances due from banks stood at JD 181.7 million against JD 1860.0 million in 1985, and these balances are placed for periods up to one year at the money market interest rates. Cash represents 66.6% of Deposits. You will notice that the Bonds item has increased from JD 176.7 million in 1985 to JD 188.0 million; the increase is mainly due to the purchase of local government bonds, which some of our branches have to buy according to local regulations, and which can be readily repaid at the central banks or sold at the money markets. When these marketable bonds are added to the cash, the liquid assets of the Bank rise to JD 2,170 million or 72.9% of Deposits.

Investments (including subsidiaries) rose from JD 21.4 million to JD 23.6 million in 1986, an increase of JD 2.2 million. Actually the increase is greater, as an amount of JD 2.7 million, the equivalent of 12.5 million Australian dollars, was paid for the capital of Arab Australia Ltd., and JD 343,750, the equivalent of US\$ 1 million, was paid for the capital of the newly established Arab Capital Investment Company in Luxembourg which owns Arab Bank (Austria). But the real increase in Investments appeared smaller in the balance sheet because of the drop in exchange rates.

Bank premises, furniture and equipment were depreciated in accordance with local regulations in the different countries.

Earnings

A proportionate part of interest and commission received accrues from foreign currencies. As a result of the decreases in international interest rates and in exchange rates against the Jordan dinar, Earnings before tax and after subtraction of the interest paid increased only by about JD 0.5 million to JD 66.8 million in 1986. An adequate amount was allocated to internal reserves. After deduction of all expenses including employees' salaries and benefits, depreciation, administrative expenses, taxes and provisions, an amount of JD 23.5 million is left over as net profit for appropriation.

Appropriation of Net Profit

The Board of Directors recommends the following appropriations:

- JD 15.8 million to the reserves.
- JD 7.7 million as dividends to

the Shareholders at JD 3.5 per share (35% of the par value of JD 10) payable as from Thursday 30th April, 1987.

- JD 14,700 as remuneration to the Members of the Board of Directors.
- On the occasion of its 25th anniversary, our sister institution, Arab Bank (Switzerland) Ltd., will distribute a special dividend of 5% in addition to the ordinary 10% dividend.

Shareholders Equity

	million
Paid-up capital remained at	JD 22.0
Total reserves, after allocation from the 1986 profit	JD 142.4
Total Equity	JD 164.4

This represents an increase of 10.6% over 1985

New Branches

Our Cannes branch in France commenced its activities in June 1986 and is fully equipped to render its services to the Arab visitors and local residents throughout the year. Another branch was opened in December in Ch-toura, Lebanon. A permit has been obtained from the Egyptian Government to open a second branch in Cairo and a part of a building in Heliopolis quarters was purchased to accommodate the new branch which will open for business during 1987. Thus we shall have three branches in Egypt: two in Cairo and one in Alexandria, all dealing in the major transferable currencies.

Arab Australia Ltd, our new subsidiary bank in Sydney, opened in early September 1986, and our representative office in Tokyo, Japan, opened in November 1986.

We hope to establish shortly a representative office in Seoul, South Korea. You will notice that we are presently concentrating on opening new branches and offices in the Far East and Australia on account of the economic importance of those parts of the world.

Board of Directors

On 28th March 1986 a new Board was elected, and is composed as follows:

Mr. Abdulmajed A.H. Shoman, Mr. Khalid A.H. Shoman, Mr. Abdé Hamid A.M. Shoman, Mr. Mahmoud M. Beydoun, Mr. Farouk K. Jabre, Mr. George S. Tannous, Mr. Munib R. Masri, Mr. Hasib J. Sabbagh, Mr. Rafic B. Alhariri, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Saudi Arabia.

Ministry of Finance and Petroleum, Kuwait.

We wish to thank Mr. Badr Khalid Al Badr for all the services he rendered to the Bank during his membership, and Mr. Faisal A.R. Al Khalid who represented the Ministry of Finance and Petroleum, Kuwait, in one Board meeting. He became a minister in the Kuwaiti government and Mr. Saad Ali Alnahedh was chosen as a new representative.

The Board of Directors expresses its gratitude to all clients who entrust their business to the branches as a result of confidence, and thanks all employees of the Bank and its subsidiaries and sister institutions for their good efforts in the service of the customers and the progress of their institutions. May God give us strength to achieve our aim of rendering more support to the economy of the Arab homeland and all countries where we operate.

BRANCHES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD**ARAB BANK LIMITED**

General Management
P.O. Box 950544, 950545
Shmeisani
Amman - Jordan
Cable Bankarabi
Tel 660115, 660131
Fax 605793
Tlx 23091 ARABNK JO

Jordan

Jordan Branches Center
P.O. Box 950545
Shmeisani-Amman
Tel 670192, 660131
Fax 606793
Tlx = 23092 ARABNK JO
= 23683 ARABJC JO

Ammen
P.O. Box 8 end 68
King Faisal Street
Tel 638161-9
Fax 637082
Tlx 21273 ARABNK JO
= 21230 ARABNK JO

Shmeisani
P.O. Box 950546
Amman
Tel 660115, 660131
Fax 660115 Ext. 0176
Tlx 23093 ARABSH JO
= 23094 ARABSH JO

Jabal Ammen
P.O. Box 2711
Intercontinental Hotel Street
Amman
(Dealing in Money Chasing)
Tel 644134

Jabel Amman
P.O. Box 2711
Abu Na'meh Building
near Zahrain Police
Amman
Tel 629479, 829835
Tlx 23793 ARABJA JO

Jabel Hussein
P.O. Box 8348
Khaled Ben Alwaleed Street
Amman
Tel 640237, 814247
Tlx = 21154 ARABJH JO

Luwaiydh
P.O. Box 9105
Amman
Tel 638673
Tlx 21854 ARABLU JO

Mahatta St.
P. O. Box 6904
Amman
Tel 651375-7
Tlx 21463 ARBAMS JO

Marka
P.O. Box 15450
Amman
Tel 891006-9
Tlx 21080 ARABKA JO

Wahdat
P.O. Box 16067 and 620945
Souk Alkhodar Almarkazi Street
Amman
Tel 771122-3, 782123
Tlx = 21824 ARABWA JO

Abdali
P.O. Box 926607
Amman
Tel 827271-2
Tlx = 23416 ARABDA JO

Aqaba
P.O. Box 37
Assouk Attijari Street
Tel 313545-6
Tlx = 62329 ARABAO JO

Irbid
P.O. Box 18
King Abdulla Square
Tel 24251, 244513
Tlx 51539 ARABNK JO

Zerka
P.O. Box 11
Irbid Branch
Tlx 211427 ARABNK JO

Mafraq
P.O. Box 296
Tel 431697

Suweileh
P.O. Box 175
Tel = 23687 ARABNK JO

Amman
P.O. Box 656
Tel 641935

Medina
P.O. Box 30
Tel 641934

Mea'an
P.O. Box 108
Tel 641740-6
Fax 41740-6

Karak
P.O. Box 94
Tel 351253-4
Fax 351255
Tlx = 63001 ARABNK JO

Abu Alanda
P.O. Box 351
Tel 731451-2
Tlx = 23640 ARABAL JO

Deir Alla
P.O. Box 138
Tel 573137-8

Queen Alia Airport
P.O. Box 950546
Tel (08) 51204

Industrial City
(Sahab)
P.O. Box 4
Tel 722107

Wadi Seer
P.O. Box 140025
Amman

Tel 610311, 810312
Tlx = 23988 ARABWS JO

Lebanon
Beirut

Offshore Banking Unit
P.O. Box 813
Government Street
Manama Centre
Manama
Tel 256398, 275303
Fax 231640

Dealing Room
Tlx 9333 ARABFX BN

9334 ARABFX BN
9335 ARABFX BN

Commercial Branches

Manama
P.O. Box 385
Government Street
Tel 255888

Tlx. 6232 ARABNK BN

Ras Beirut
P.O. Box 5178
Elias Kebab, Hamra
Tel 340630 - 1
Tlx ARB = 44508LE
ARABNP 22607LE

Mazra'a
P.O. Box 11-1525
Rihani Center
Corniche Al-Mazra'a, Beirut
Tel 305061, 312668
Tlx ARABMZ 047312

Bab Touqane
P.O. Box 299
Syria Street
Tripoli
Tel 402242

Misr
P.O. Box 374
Tahrir Street
Tel 401850-1
Tlx = 4480 ARABBS UP

Sakaka
P.O. Box 17
Tel 34141

Almaktoum St.
P.O. Box 11364
Dubai

Verdun
P.O. Box 14-5285
Beirut

Deir Alla
P.O. Box 10005 Ext. 221
809872 Ext. 221

Abu Alanda
P.O. Box 296
Tel 431697

Chitou
P.O. Box 199
Tel 826170

Bahrain

Almaktoum St.
P.O. Box 11364
Dubai

Fujairah
P.O. Box 300
Shahikh Zayed Street
Tel 22050

Tlx = 89051 ARABNK EM

Ras Alkhaimah
P.O. Box 4972
Oman Street, Nakheel

Tel 28437-8

Tlx = 99152 ARABNK EM

Sharjah
P.O. Box 130
Alaurooba Street
Tel 363994-5

Tlx = 68223 ARABNK SH

Yaman Arab Republic
(North Yamen)

Sana'a

P. Box 475 and 1301

Zubairi Road

Tel 240922, 240924

240928, 240927

Fax 263187

Tlx 2239 ARABNK YE

= 2641 ARABNK YE

Hodeda

P.O. Box 3812
Sana'a Street
Tel 239166-7

Fax 211557
Tlx = 5523 ARABNK YE
5520 ARABNK YE

Tlx 231593-9
Fax 212200-1

Tlx 211011 ARABNK CY

Tlx 211011 ARABNK CY
Tlx 211011 ARABNK CY

Tlx 211011 ARABNK

Far-flung Arab artists regroup in Amman

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Many Arab artists, especially those living and working away from their native homes, have received international recognition while remaining relatively unknown within the Arab World. This has happened despite the fact that their work is of some importance, having been produced more often than not under critical and competitive conditions. Attempting to redress this balance, in her own words "humbly," is an exhibition at the Petra Bank Art Gallery put together by sculptress Muna Saudi.

Comprising the work of 17 Arab artists working in such far-flung places as Japan, London, Paris, Rome and New York, the exhibition has taken Saudi a year to collect together. "All the artists are close friends," Saudi told the Jordan Times, "so there was no great organisation needed. Their contributions came gradually and slowly and suddenly I realised I had enough for an exhibition."

In the accompanying leaflet, Saudi writes about her friendship with these artists. "I got to know them at different times and in different places. We were brought together by our deep sense of responsibility for creativity and artistic research and despite the geographical distances that separate us, I feel as if they are always living around me. When it happens that occasionally we meet in cities, exhibitions, art seminars, I feel as if we are in continuous contact and we go on to finish a conversation we started yesterday."

This sense of unity and immediate rapport goes further than friendship between kindred spirits. It is also felt in their work, for although these artists live and work so far apart, surrounded by very different influences, they have developed individually along the same lines. It is as if their collective Arab consciousness, their common deeply-rooted culture has forced its way out whether they wanted it or not.

Calligraphy

One of the common themes, of course, is calligraphy, the rich heritage of language and literature being the "real essence" of Arabic culture. One of the first artists to have used Arabic calligraphy as an element in his paintings is the Syrian born artist Sami Burhan. Burhan, now living in Rome, began his career as a professional calligrapher, from which he developed his art.

This recent, small selection of his work shows how he incorporates a word almost entirely into an abstract design, the letters only emerging like a secret code to those who know how to look for them. His work can thus stand as calligraphy or as pure abstract compositions and both work equally well.

Another very famous calligrapher is Kamal Bulatta who exhibited in Amman some three years ago at the Jordan National Gallery. In these pieces of his latest work, Bulatta is continuing his research into calligraphy. "In Arabic culture," Saudi explained, "the language is a living substance and Bulatta is trying to find this living quality in a visual medium."

Bulatta achieves this almost solely by his use of colour. By employing very elaborate, almost luminous tones, shades so subtle and rare that they defy easy

definition. Bulatta imbues his compositions with vibrant energy. The letters appear to move and flow, creating interior spaces that hint at something mystic and profound.

It is to the work of Iraqi born artist Saleh Al Jumiaie that many people will gravitate for his earthy tones and strange, ancient, scroll-like writings make you feel that if only you could unravel their message you would know the secret of the universe. A graduate of the Iraqi Institute of Fine Arts in Baghdad, of the Californian College of Arts and Crafts, Jumiaie, now residing in California, etches letter like shapes in columns and blocks over his paper which he then paints in wonderful ancient ceramic colours that both in tone and texture look like he has old crushed pots as his media. As Helen Khal writes "Al Jumiaie transforms the repetitive linear characteristics of the Arabic script into a mysterious cuneiform language that tantalises the mind and eye. Here and there an occasional word is legible, but on the whole it is a secret language that calls for intuitive perception and understanding."

Saudi feels the work of Syrian artist Arnaout, who studied in Rome and Paris before returning to teach art in Damascus, is an extension of the etchings of Al Jumiaie. An innovator — Am-

out has just developed and patented a technique that will greatly facilitate the reproduction of colour, — he uses several different kinds of media to create his calligraphic designs, the best of which is the one where the letters break out of their formal decorative design to fan freely into the blue.

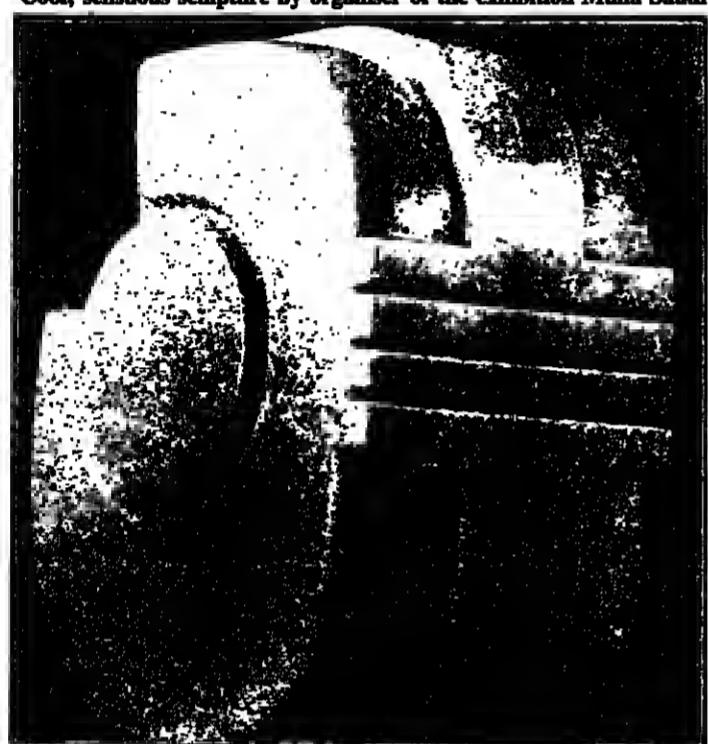
Another very established and respected Iraqi painter working along the same lines as Al Jumiaie is Shaker Hasan Al Said, who was one of the first Arab artists to put forward the principles of how Arab art should be modern, yet relate to the part of the world from which it stems. A mystic painter, Al Said makes his work look like it has been lifted from ancient graffiti strewn walls bearing on their scratched and torn surfaces the traces of life that has passed it by over the centuries. The results are superb abstractions, whose textured beige surfaces are splattered, streaked, sprayed and imprinted with crimson, browns and blues.

The calligraphic compositions of Algerian born, French trained Rashid Koraitchi, made up of tiny squares and patterns of writing across which move the huge bold angles partly seen letters, lead to the equally bold lettering that dominates the work of Dia Azzawi.

The work of this highly acclaimed Iraqi artist, who now lives in London, was seen in



Geometric shapes of pure, bright colors laid on top of each other like a collage with flowing black letters. Painting by Dia Azzawi (above). Cool, sensuous sculpture by organiser of the exhibition Muna Saudi



definition. Bulatta imbues his compositions with vibrant energy. The letters appear to move and flow, creating interior spaces that hint at something mystic and profound.

It is to the work of Iraqi born artist Saleh Al Jumiaie that many people will gravitate for his earthy tones and strange, ancient, scroll-like writings make you feel that if only you could unravel their message you would know the secret of the universe. A graduate of the Iraqi Institute of Fine Arts in Baghdad, of the Californian College of Arts and Crafts, Jumiaie, now residing in California, etches letter like shapes in columns and blocks over his paper which he then paints in wonderful ancient ceramic colours that both in tone and texture look like he has old crushed pots as his media. As Helen Khal writes "Al Jumiaie transforms the repetitive linear characteristics of the Arabic script into a mysterious cuneiform language that tantalises the mind and eye. Here and there an occasional word is legible, but on the whole it is a secret language that calls for intuitive perception and understanding."

Saudi feels the work of Syrian artist Arnaout, who studied in Rome and Paris before returning to teach art in Damascus, is an extension of the etchings of Al Jumiaie. An innovator — Am-

man just over a year ago and it was from that collection that this piece, "A garden of Calligraphy" was taken. The geometric shapes of pure bright colours laid one on top of another like a collage, on which are superimposed his flowing black letters, are the link between one type of Arab art and another between, abstracted calligraphy and pure abstraction.

This latter is epitomised by the stunning and exciting work of Samia Hallaby. Originally from Jerusalem, but now living and working in New York, Hallaby creates, by silkscreening, a daringly bold silkscreen of bright glowing colours that, quilt-like interlace with one another, their intensity calmed and unified by the intricate patterns that cross their surfaces. Says Saudi, "I have never seen such a strong colourist. I find her work very pure, very spiritual, the visual equivalent of the music of Bach."

Abstracts

The work of Sudanese etcher Mohammad Khalil bears much in common with both Hallaby's and Azzawi's abstractions. Using Azzawi's heavy blacks and maroons, Khalil frames his collage like patterns of geometrical shapes, whose symmetry is enhanced by careful stripes and patterns that overlay them. Technically Khalil's etchings are immaculate, particularly his black and white pieces that are full of subtle textures and emerging shapes.

ART REVIEW

Finally in this group of pure abstract painters is Vladimir Tamari. Tamari studied art and physics and still works in both fields. Whilst inventing machines for drawing three dimensional images and for topographical measurements, he paints haunting grids of subtle moving colours that tell of landscapes seen from windows, of wild free spaces controlled and confined — images stimulated perhaps by the fact Tamari lives and works in Japan.

Moving through Paul Guragossian's abstractions of a jostling crowd, we come to the more figurative artists in the group: like Syrian born Nazil Naber who concerns himself with the heritage of Damascus; Egyptian impressionist, artist Shallabib Ibrahim; Iraqi expressionist Mohammad Muhrad; our own Ahmad Nawash and Suliman Mansour, who is currently one of the most important artists on the West Bank.

Sculptures

Completing the exhibition in more ways than one are three of Saudi's own sculptures. Dating from different periods in her career they relay the essence of her work — smooth and sensuous, pure and glowing — they curve, flow and grow with an organic naturalness. As Anne Mullin Burnham writes: "Her work has a stillness and movement, immediacy and continuity. Perhaps more strikingly, it is both intimate and monumental." Choosing rare and beautiful stones, Saudi brings them to life, sculpting them with visually apparent care until they become, seemingly effortlessly, what they were always meant to be.

Saudi hopes that this group exhibition will become an annual event, each year seeing new names included. The exhibition which opens on Monday, March 30, runs until April 9.

Jordan's lesser known antiquities — charming and mysterious remnants of the past

Text and photos by
Josephine Zananiri
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In the Near East even the humblest of rocks has connections with antiquity, having been kicked over by biblical armies, buried by enraged Roman masons into beautiful temples. When even the smallest of stones breathes history, Jordan's abundance of ancient sites is quite understandable.

This latter is epitomised by the stunning and exciting work of Samia Hallaby. Originally from Jerusalem, but now living and working in New York, Hallaby creates, by silkscreening, a daringly bold silkscreen of bright glowing colours that, quilt-like interlace with one another, their intensity calmed and unified by the intricate patterns that cross their surfaces. Says Saudi, "I have never seen such a strong colourist. I find her work very pure, very spiritual, the visual equivalent of the music of Bach."

Abstracts

The work of Sudanese etcher Mohammad Khalil bears much in common with both Hallaby's and Azzawi's abstractions. Using Azzawi's heavy blacks and maroons, Khalil frames his collage like patterns of geometrical shapes, whose symmetry is enhanced by careful stripes and patterns that overlay them. Technically Khalil's etchings are immaculate, particularly his black and white pieces that are full of subtle textures and emerging shapes.

ART REVIEW

Finally in this group of pure abstract painters is Vladimir Tamari. Tamari studied art and physics and still works in both fields. Whilst inventing machines for drawing three dimensional images and for topographical measurements, he paints haunting grids of subtle moving colours that tell of landscapes seen from windows, of wild free spaces controlled and confined — images stimulated perhaps by the fact Tamari lives and works in Japan.

Moving through Paul Guragossian's abstractions of a jostling crowd, we come to the more figurative artists in the group: like Syrian born Nazil Naber who concerns himself with the heritage of Damascus; Egyptian impressionist, artist Shallabib Ibrahim; Iraqi expressionist Mohammad Muhrad; our own Ahmad Nawash and Suliman Mansour, who is currently one of the most important artists on the West Bank.

Sculptures

Completing the exhibition in more ways than one are three of Saudi's own sculptures. Dating from different periods in her career they relay the essence of her work — smooth and sensuous, pure and glowing — they curve, flow and grow with an organic naturalness. As Anne Mullin Burnham writes: "Her work has a stillness and movement, immediacy and continuity. Perhaps more strikingly, it is both intimate and monumental." Choosing rare and beautiful stones, Saudi brings them to life, sculpting them with visually apparent care until they become, seemingly effortlessly, what they were always meant to be.

Saudi hopes that this group exhibition will become an annual event, each year seeing new names included. The exhibition which opens on Monday, March 30, runs until April 9.



The old farmhouse — Bait Haja — in Wadi Seer is now in a state of ruin since its unknown owners left their residence.

The cross-like layout of the tomb is not explained in any way by the original impression of the building. The final internal spaces unaccounted for and making up the total area — little squares at each corner — were probably used as burial chambers. But who were the four interred in the fine tiny monument, and why were the dead provided with a cistern, now a rubbish filled hole at the back of the tomb? Were the occupants considered important enough to have guard who presumably used the provided water and, finally, what is the significance of a tomb constructed far from Amman or Philadelphia as it was then known or any nearby Roman town?

According to Lancaster Hardinge, one of the few archaeologists who made a reference to the place, the tomb was probably built in the Third Century A.D. and is known as Qasr Nueijis.

External facades

The small, rectangular building stands as a solemn reminder of both human death and the inevitable passing of empires and remains a stark contrast to the lively Roman towns of the north. The external facades of the building are fairly sumptuous; the frieze is finely carved into light floral motifs and the roof once housed some quite sophisticated carved columns, only one of which remains standing. The others, having fallen to the ground, make useful chairs for the occasional picnickers.

There are three high windows and one entrance to the tomb — each located on one of the four walls. The door way, although now derelict, was once carved with fine step-up architraving. On first impression, the interior and floor are covered in a fine dust which appears never to have escaped the tomb but risen and fallen to become fine, with each intrusion throughout the hundreds of intervening years.

The interior is a total contrast to the regular square exterior. The ceiling is domed in a beautiful soft, cup-like central feature. It is totally obscured

by a retinue of servants who perhaps served their master, constructing the small cistern so that they could live nearby and tend in death for those who cared for in life?

If from the previous century, could the tomb be that of a valiant Roman general who fought in the wars against the troublesome Herodian dynasty? Could the shaded hill top have been a favoured hunting place or a secluded area where the general retired to ponder the latest news from Rome. Was the tomb built

by loyal legionaries who thought it a fitting symbol for a much admired leader and installed a small cistern nearby so that travellers could rest themselves and think of both the glories of Rome and their general?

The identity of those once

buried at Qasr Nueijis is unlikely

to be discovered now, there are

no inscriptions on the building,

perhaps none were ever carried

out. The tomb however remains a symbol — possibly to the genius of Roman engineering and certainly to a brilliant, long gone empire.

Bait Haja

The time lapse between con-

struction of the Roman tomb and

the elegant Wadi Saeer farm

house, known as Bait Haja, is

over 1,500 years yet both share

the same lonely aura of neglect.

Bait Haja as the villagers of El

Bassa call it was probably con-

structed in the last century, dur-

ing a wave of migrations from

Salt to the fertile southern plains.

The dwelling, perched on the

hillside overlooking the fertile

Wadi Saeer valley, is a fine exam-

ple of farmhouse architecture.

Constructed on two levels, much

of the stately building is now in a

state of ruin. The lower floor of

the house appears to have been

used for grain storage and possi-

bly servants' quarters and in-

cludes a courtyard with a magni-

cious mulberry tree which must

have been a tiny seedling at the

time of construction of the

building.

The stone masonry of the

house is neat and smoothly cut,

suggesting that stone masons

were brought from outside the

valley, possibly even Jerusalem

or Nablus, as peasant homes are

constructed from roughly-hewn

stones. The windows of the farm-

house are generally arched and

the living quarters are protected

by strong vertical bars of gradu-

ated size relating to the window

arch.

Derelict outbuildings

A short distance from the dwelling lies a derelict series of out buildings, probably the house's stables and even granary. Built in the peasant style, with low sloping vaulted roofs, the chambers are entered directly from a narrow road. Each remaining door is rustic, solid and aged, when opened slightly the stone chambers reveal the green bounties of spring as flowers, grass and creepers climb prolifically over ancient stones.

The peasants of El Bassa do not know the fate of the owners of the house. "They left a long time ago, to Amman," says one of the young women of the village. Asked when, she shrugged and, after a hurried conference amongst the girls said, "I don't know, probably at the time of the Turks."

The villagers have crowded their own tiny cement block houses around the farmhouse and stables, having a generation ago abandoned the organic stone village on the opposite side of the valley. "There was no road leading to the old village," adds the same girl, "now only a few of the elderly stay over there."

Both Bait Haja and Qasr Nueijis are monuments to their own times, each representing a small sector of the past in an area where the trappings of by-gone days lie literally under every stone.

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT

TAIWAN TOURISM

Authentic Chinese Food

Korean Bar-B-Q

Charcoal Flaming Pot</p

Wilander downs McEnroe, retains Belgian indoor title

BRUSSELS (R) — Mats Wilander retained his Belgian Indoor Tennis Championship and became the second Swede in a week to deprive former world number one John McEnroe of a Grand Prix title.

Wilander, the second seed, followed the example of Swedish number one Stefan Edberg, who beat McEnroe in the Rotterdam final last Sunday, with a 6-3, 6-4 win in Brussels.

"I should not lose to Wilander on an indoor court," said McEnroe, still struggling for consistency following his layoff from the game last year.

But the third-seed American complimented his opponent on playing a clever match.

Wilander, who is also fighting to return to form after taking a break to get married, took an early grip on the Sunday match and was only briefly threatened in the second set.

"I am very satisfied with my game. I put in the right shots at the right moment," he said.

Wilander gratefully accepted a share of McEnroe's misfits to break the American in the fourth game, then held his next three service games to take the first set



Mats Wilander

money.

McEnroe, who will take a week's break from the game to try and shake off his hip problem, said he reckoned he was now around number seven in the world.

"It would have been nice to begin leave with a win, but I felt a little flat. I was a bit too impatient," he said.

Wilander took the game after wrong-footing McEnroe at the net and went on to hold serve for victory and \$50,000 in prize

Napoli poised for title after beating Juventus

NAPLES, Italy (R) — Napoli is poised for its first Italian League title after a humiliating 2-1 defeat of champion Juventus which owed much to a dazzling display by two players who are fast emerging from the shadow of Diego Maradona.

The pair, goalscorers Sandro Renica and Francesco Romano, superbly marshalled by captain Maradona, made their opponents from Turin — with the notable exception of Frenchman Michel Platini — seem tired and jaded.

Napoli, seeking the first championship of its 61-year history, extended its lead to five points over Roma, unexpectedly beaten 2-1 by relegation-bound Udinese, and Internazionale Milan, held to a goalless draw by Torino. The season has six weeks left.

News of Udinese's second goal against Roma prompted an outburst of near-delirium by the noisy Napoli fans in the 82,000-strong crowd who braved intermittent rain in the city's San Paolo Stadium.

Juventus's second defeat by Napoli this season must have brought home to the former European champion, who has won 22 league shields, the fact that its reign is, for the moment at least, at an end.

Napoli proved its worth as pretenders to the throne, going 1-0 ahead after 13 minutes from a beautifully-played set-piece by Maradona and Renica.

Maradona stepped up to take a free kick seven metres outside the penalty box and touched the ball delicately sideways to Renica, who thundered home a shot which went between goalkeeper Stefano Tacconi's legs.

Juventus looked dangerous only once in the first half when 17-year-old Renato Buso, standing in for injured Dane Michael Laudrup, sent a shot wide. Buso, sent a shot wide. Buso,

Renzo scored the Sampdoria goals.

Italian First Division Standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Napoli	24	14	8	2	36	14	36
Roma	24	12	7	5	33	18	31
Internazionale	24	12	7	5	29	15	31
Juventus	24	11	8	5	33	22	30
Milan	24	11	7	6	24	16	29
Sampdoria	24	10	7	7	27	17	27
Verona	24	9	9	6	26	22	27

Mandlikova beats Sukova

FAIRFAX, Virginia (AP) — Czechoslovakia's Hana Mandlikova defeated fellow countrywoman Hana Sukova Saturday, 6-3, 6-2 to join Barbara Potter in the finals of the \$150,000 Washington Women's Tennis Tournament.

Potter, the only unseeded player in the semifinals, fought off four match points to eliminate fourth-seeded Zina Garrison, 6-6, 7-6.

Potter and Mandlikova, the top seed, will vie for the \$30,500 top prize Sunday night. Mandlikova, who has yet to lose a set this

week, is 6-0 lifetime against Potter.

Mandlikova negated the 6-foot-2 Sukova's net game with a steady barrage of passing shots. Sukova also had problems with her serve, allowing Mandlikova five service breaks in eight attempts.

Sukova, the world's sixth-ranked player, now owns a 1-12 record against Mandlikova.

Mandlikova, ranked no. 4 used service breaks in the second and sixth games to take a 5-1 lead in the first set. Sukova then shrugged off two set-points to pull to within 5-2. But two games later Mandlikova served out the set at 15.

Mandlikova won the final six games of the second set to close out the match in 78 minutes.

Potter was on the brink of elimination in the final set when Garrison was serving for the match at 5-3, 40-30. Potter battled back from that deficit, then shrugged off three more match points in the 12th game to knot the set at 6-6.

Potter, down 2-4 in the tie-breaker, won the final five points to win the decisive games, 7-6.

Mandlikova, 22,889 seconds at an average speed of 135,998 kph.

Wayne Gardner of Australia, runner-up to American Eddie Lawson in last year's World 500cc Motorcycling Grand Prix, opening round of this year's championship, in emphatic style Sunday.

As 11 of his rivals crashed out on the rain-swept Suzuka circuit, Mandlikova, on a Yamaha, led from start to finish to complete the 130-kilometre race in 57 minutes.

In addition to the 11 riders who crashed, three others developed mechanical faults.

Muguruma's WBA win tops title bouts

MORIGUCHI, Japan (AP) — Takuwa Muguruma of Japan steadily battered Panama's Azael Moran in the head and body and knocked him out in the fifth round Sunday, winning the vacant World Boxing Association bantamweight title.

American referee Larry Rozendaal counted Moran out at 2:50 of the fifth round of the scheduled 15-round bout after Muguruma had downed him for the second time in the round.

Moran had sagged to his knees just after the bell ended the fourth round. And in the fifth, Muguruma chased him throughout the round with rights and lefts. After about two minutes, Moran, backed into the ropes, sagged to his knees again but stood up and resumed the fight.

Muguruma continued to batter the Panamanian with right and lefts, and when Moran went to his knees for the third time in the fight, he was unable to recover.

Choi retains IBF title

In Copenhagen, Denmark's Gert Bo Jacobsen grabbed the world junior lightweight championship on Saturday after the referee stopped the contest with Felipe Julio of Columbia in the fifth round.

Jacobsen, the reigning European lightweight champion, dominated the fight in all five rounds.

The 23-year-old Columbian withstood a lot of punishment from the Dane's hard and fast left-right combinations. But the referee halted the match one minute and 18 seconds into the fifth round when Julio began to bleed from a cut above his left eye.

Jacobsen, 25, is undefeated in 20 matches, and Julio has scored 17 knockouts in 22 pro fights.

Whitaker takes NABF title

In Norfolk, Pernell "Sweet-pea" Whitaker scored a unanimous decision over Roger Mayweather in a 12-round bout Saturday for the North American Boxing Federation (NABF) lightweight crown.

The three judges scored the fight 116-110, 117-111, 116-112.

Bordeaux, Marseille battle for top in French League

PARIS (R) — Bordeaux and Marseille increased their lead at the top of the French First Division when they beat Nancy and Saint-Etienne respectively while third-placed Toulouse drew 0-0 in Paris with Racing.

With nine games to go, Bordeaux and Marseille are now six points clear with 42 points from 29 games. Bordeaux lead on goal difference.

Metz moved up to sixth with a 3-0 win over Brest. Veteran left-winger Bernard Zenier scored twice to increase his tally as the French League's top scorer to 14.

Defending champion Paris-Saint-Germain disappointed again when it was held to a goalless draw at bottom-of-the-table Rennes who is already doomed to relegation.

But star-studded PSG has a chance to answer its critics when it entertains Bordeaux at home next Saturday.

French First Division Standings

	P	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
1. Bordeaux	29	16	10	3	43	17	42
2. Marseille	29	15	12	2	40	18	42
3. Toulouse	29	13	10	6	39	20	36
4. Auxerre	29	12	11	6	32	22	35
5. Monaco	29	11	11	7	29	25	33

Mamola wins Japan motorcycling

SUZUKA, Japan (R) — Randy Mamola of the United States raced untroubled through persistent rain to win the Japanese 500cc Motorcycling Grand Prix, opening round of this year's championship, in emphatic style Sunday.

As 11 of his rivals crashed out on the rain-swept Suzuka circuit, Mamola, on a Yamaha, led from start to finish to complete the 130-kilometre race in 57 minutes.

In addition to the 11 riders who crashed, three others developed mechanical faults.

It was the reverse order of the

World Cross Country Championship in Warsaw last Sunday, when Ngugi took the gold and Kipkoech the silver.

Italy's Francesco Panetta edged Australian Steve Moneghetti for third place.

Moroccan track and field ace Said Aouita, world record holder in the 1,500 and 5,000 metres, dropped out during the second of the four-lap race after spraining his right leg.

O'Meara, Scott share lead in TPC golf

PONTE VEDRA, Florida (R) — Mark O'Meara shot a bogey-five on the last hole to surrender the outright lead and slip back into a tie with fellow-American Scott Simpson after the third round of the Tournament Players Championship (TPC).

O'Meara and Simpson shot respective rounds of 69 and 68 to lead on a 14-under-par 202 total as compatriot Steve Jones, leader for the first two rounds, faltered with a disappointing third round 76 to drift off the pace.

Kenyans take top two at Five Mills race

SAN VITORE OLONA, Italy (AP) — Kenyan runners dominated the men's race of the Five Mills cross country competition Sunday and American Lynn Jennings triumphed in the women's event.

Paul Kipkoech led from the start to the finish in the 10.8-kilometre men's event to finish ahead of countryman John Ngugi.

It was the reverse order of the

World Cross Country Championship in Warsaw last Sunday, when Ngugi took the gold and Kipkoech the silver.

Italy's Francesco Panetta edged Australian Steve Moneghetti for third place.

Moroccan track and field ace Said Aouita, world record holder in the 1,500 and 5,000 metres, dropped out during the second of the four-lap race after spraining his right leg.

Music World
دبي الموسيقى

Real Variety Best Quality & Prices !!
SAMICK PIANO Roland DAEWOO CASIO JUPITER Linko Orla Segno

Academy of Fine Arts
The ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS is an educational arm of MUSIC WORLD, promoting formal and informal study of music and classical ballet in Jordan. Private instruction is offered in piano, organ, guitar, drums, violin, and voice, also classes in Music Theory and other areas of interest!! Registration is presently being taken for the new semester beginning April 1, 1987.

OPENING SPECIAL!!!
Piano and Dinner For Two
FROM APRIL 1 - 30, 1987, THE BUYER OF ANY OF OUR BEAUTIFUL PIANOS, WILL NOT ONLY RECEIVE A GOOD DISCOUNT BUT ALSO WILL BE TREATED TO A DINNER FOR TWO!!

VILLA FOR SALE
Newly built deluxe villa on 900 square metres. Located near Sixth Circle. Two floors, ground floor 400 square metres and basement 350 square metres. Basement consists of two apartments, one for services and second has two bedrooms, two bathrooms, sitting room and kitchen. Ground floor is four bedrooms, four bathrooms, two sitting rooms, kitchen and dining room. Villa located on two streets with a nice garden and covered garage.

For more information contact owner, daily 4 to 6 p.m. Tel. 641547

ADVERTISEMENT
JORDAN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
FACULTY OF DENTISTRY
DENTAL SURGERY ASSISTANT TUTOR

Applications are invited for a Dental Surgery Assistant Tutor in the Jordan University of Science & Technology, Dental Faculty.

Interested applicants could write for further particulars & for a curriculum vitae form. This will require information on acceptable primary & secondary school education, D.S.A. certification, post certification experience & positions held & present salary. The names of three referees will also be requested.

To: The Dean, Faculty of Dentistry, Jordan University of Science & Technology Irbid, Jordan

THE GALLERY
Hotel Jordan Intercontinental

invites you to view Mrs. Rita Ghul's exhibition of WILD AND CULTIVATED FLOWERS OF JORDAN

Sixty pictures will be on display as of Mon. 30th March to Thurs. 9th April 1987.

Open daily 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. Closed Friday

FURNISHED APARTMENT FOR RENT

Fully-furnished two bedroom ground floor apartment. Living room, salon, central heating, telephone, etc.. Separate entrance, private garden.

Location: Shmeisani - Near UNRWA regional headquarters.

If interested, call tel: 652772 or 665346

Weekly Financial Report

By Fouad Batshon

The following report summarizes trading activities in Amman of major European and Arab currencies as well as gold prices. The writer is a foreign exchange dealer at the Arab Finance Corporation (merged with Halim Salim and Sons Co.).

AMMAN — Last week the U.S. dollar opened weak and dealers began selling the currency, although there was interventions from the central banks, especially the Bank of Japan, which intervened in the market with around \$6 billion to support the currency from falling further, but to no avail.

The dollar fell heavily against Japanese yen — the higher American budget deficit in comparison with the Japanese trade surplus was the cause of this heavy drop in the dollar against the yen. Also, the sentiment of dealers all around the world is still to sell the dollar. The dollar traded in the range of 0.336-0.340 fils to the JD. Charts indicate that the dollar is going to fall more this week to lower levels against the Deutsche Mark and the Japanese yen.

The expected ranges for this week are 0.333-0.338 fils. The pound sterling lost

ground against the dollar, mainly because of profit taking. It fell to reach 0.5450 fils on the JD and 2.91 on the DM.

The DM/SF moved to higher levels. DM traded between 0.1780-0.1880 fils and SF between 0.220-0.228 fils.

The Lebanese lire (LL) traded within a very narrow range because of the uncertainty in the Lebanon. LL traded between (320-360) LL/JD. The Syrian lira traded between (70-65) SL/JD and the Kuwaiti dinar traded between 1.2150 to 1.2225 on the JD.

The Egyptian pound traded between 0.175-0.185 fils and the Iraqi dinar between 0.24-0.28 fils.

Metals

Metals traded higher because of the weak dollar and higher oil prices and lower stock prices. Gold jumped from a low of \$405 an ounce to \$423 an ounce. Silver from \$5.82 an ounce to \$6.35 an ounce, charts indicate that metals should move up to \$430 an ounce before dropping back to \$412 an ounce. Gold prices in Amman, based on the daily bulletin issued by the Jordan Jewelry Store Company are as follows:

Gold per gramme 21 carats JD 4.100 - 3.950

Gold per gramme 18 carats JD 3.950 - 3.750

Polish government announces sweeping price increases

WARSAW (AP) — The Polish government on Saturday announced sweeping price hikes for many basic goods and services and the opposition Solidarity trade union warned of protests against the increases.

The price increases, ranging from about 10 per cent to 100 per cent, affect basic foodstuffs, cigarettes and alcohol, energy and gasoline, and transportation and postal services. They took effect Sunday.

Solidarity leader, Mr. Lech Walesa, said the outlawed labour movement was "ready and prepared to take up action to resist the price hikes in line with the general decision of workers."

This time the working world should not agree to these price hikes," said Mr. Walesa, in a statement read over the telephone from his Gdansk apartment. "They (the authorities) do not have a programme of getting out of the (economic) crisis."

Only a decided stand by workers... may guarantee that the state enters the road in the direction of reforms," he said.

The government communiqué announcing the price hikes reflected its concern over worker reaction. Price increases are a sensitive issue among Poland's volatile working class and led to worker revolts in 1970, 1976 and 1980.

The ministry of finance, in a communiqué read over radio and television, said the price rises were lower than originally planned in response to criticism from the official Trade Union Federation.

The ministry said it would also partially meet union demands by increasing compensation payments to low-income groups in order to offset the impact of the price rises.

"The government is aware that any price hikes are received very reluctantly," the communiqué said. "They are, however, an economic necessity and resigning from them this year would have been from an economic point of view harmful and dangerous."

Mr. Walesa said the only way the authorities could effectively reform the economy was by rearing trade union freedoms and other rights won by workers in the August 1980 protests that led to Solidarity's birth. Solidarity was outlawed under martial law in 1982.

China's foreign debt totals \$20.6b

PEKING (R) — A Chinese leader said last week that the country's foreign debt was rising but not to a dangerous level and China valued its good credit rating in the world. Vice-Premier Tian Jiyun told a rare press conference for foreign journalists that the debt, including foreign investment, was \$20.6 billion in December, of which \$7.6 billion was in long-term low-interest loans. "Considering the national economic strength of China and the scale of its imports and exports, this level of foreign debt can be sustained by China now and has not developed to a dangerous point," he said. Finance Minister Wang Bingqian said in his budget speech on Thursday that foreign borrowing in 1987 would be almost double the 1986 level and nearly six times the 1985 amount. Under Chairman Mao Tse-Tung's rule from 1949-1976, China borrowed very little abroad, insisting that nearly all development be financed from the country's own resources. Mr. Tian took the opposite view. "It is not enough for us to rely totally on our own funds and capital (to achieve modernisation). We have to have the courageous spirit to borrow a certain amount of foreign loans," he said.

Horoscope and Crosswords not received

Paper reveals high jobless figure in Soviet Azerbaijan

MOSCOW (R) — A quarter of a million people are out of work in the southern Soviet republic of Azerbaijan, where the authorities have begun shifting jobless workers to Siberia, an official newspaper reported Sunday.

Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya indicated there was a certain amount of resistance to the worker resettlement programme, saying Azerbaijanis had voiced desires to stay in their homeland.

But it said officials nonetheless planned in the next five years to double the number of people sent from the warm, oil-producing republic bordering the Caspian Sea, to construction sites across Siberia and elsewhere.

The newspaper said industries such as the Caspian oil and gas fields had laid off workers as part of the Kremlin's economic efficiency drive.

"In the republic there are now 250,000 people not employed in social production," it said, commenting: "It would not be expedient for their ranks to grow."

Publication of the unemployment figures is a new development in the Soviet Union, where under Communist Party guidelines for the planned economy there are supposed to be no jobless.

The newspaper said 35,000 to 40,000 young Azerbaijanis would be sent to projects such as the Tyumen oil and gas fields in western Siberia, the east Siberian Baikal-Amur railway line, and non-black soil areas (the less fer-

tile areas, mostly located in central and northern European Russia) of the Russian federation.

It said thousands of the migrants were volunteers but others were not so willing to leave despite the view of Communist Party organs in the republic that it was the "patriotic duty" of Azerbaijanis to take jobs elsewhere.

"This is observed in a less than easy struggle with old outlooks and habits," the newspaper said, referring to lack of understanding among the population of "internationalists" goals.

It said one of the problems stemming from the resettlement plans was the depletion of Azerbaijan's male population as men left the republic without their wives, and poor knowledge of the Russian language even among the highly educated.

Azerbaijan and other southern Soviet republics have begun facing an employment problem due in part to the high birth rate among their largely Muslim populations.

An economist from the Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan recently said there were one million unemployed Uzbeks. He said jobs were available in factories but rural areas where the population was rising were not producing skilled workers.

Analysts said frankness on the subject could be viewed as a manifestation of the current Kremlin policy of public openness on negative trends as well as positive factors in Soviet life.

Gulf Air faces falling revenue but seeks to expand routes

BAHRAIN (R) — Loss-making Gulf Air, expecting a further fall in revenue this year, plans in the longer term to press ahead with expansion of its route network, a senior company official said last week.

The airline, hit hard by the Middle East recession and cut-throat competition, slid into the red last year to the tune of four million dinars (\$10.6 million).

Revenue is projected to fall 14 per cent this year to 172 million dinars (\$460 million) and will be nearly 24 per cent lower than 1985's level.

The government said that effective Sunday it would raise the price of gasoline and motor oil, cigarettes and alcohol, and most basic food staples, including bread, flour, milk, cheese, butter, sugar, tea, and cooking oil.

The food price rises ranged from seven per cent for cooking oil to as high as 25 per cent for tea and butter. The price of a standard loaf of bread went up from 28 to 32 dinars, or 14 per cent.

Cigarette and liquor prices were raised by an average of 20 per cent, while the price of a litre of regular gasoline went up by 25 per cent.

It said the alcohol and cigarette price hikes were necessary in order to reduce consumption of the items, which had breached "a dangerous scale."

There are 240 dinars to the U.S. dollar, according to the official rate of exchange. The average monthly salary is about 25,000 dinars (\$104).

The communiqué added that on Wednesday the government would raise meat prices by an average of 10 per cent and the price of coal, gas and electricity, central heating and hot water by from 23 to 51 per cent.

The government said it had scaled down the planned price hikes for central heating and hot water from 100 per cent to 50 per cent in response to union demands.

The International Monetary Fund, which Poland rejoined last year, has insisted that the Warsaw government introduce austerity measures as a condition for receiving urgently needed economic credits to modernise the economy and meet payments on the country's \$33.5 billion foreign debt.

Mutt'n' Jeff

IT IS TO OUR ETERNAL SHAME THAT WE HAVE NOT FOUND A WAY TO AVOID ECONOMIC INSTABILITY AND SOCIAL INSECURITY!

I SHALL DEDICATE THE REST OF MY LIFE TO HELP SOLVE THE PROBLEMS OF OUR COUNTRY WITH JUSTICE, MERCY AND LOVE!

HARK AMERICA! HERE COMES NOTHING!

AL SMITH

AL SMITH

AL SMITH

Andy Capp

SEND HIM OFF, PERCY!

SIMMER DOWN, SON. VOLUME OVER-REACTING

YOUNG'UNS, THEY'VE NO IDEA DEALING WITH MY LAD CALLS FOR A COOL HEAD - OR COLD FEET

AL SMITH

AL SMITH

AL SMITH

Foreign trade financing declined to \$72.8 million dinars (\$647.3 million) from \$68.2 million dinars (\$654.9 million) the previous year.

Disbursements of loans during the past year, including previously-approved loans, fell to \$57.2 million dinars (\$635.2 million) from \$83.9 million dinars (\$777.6 million).

The bank in 1986 decided to establish a fund under the name "IDB Unit Trust" to introduce and market financial instruments in line with the principles of Islam, the report said.

"This experience will provide a foundation for the floating of other financial instruments in the near future through which the bank expects to mobilise even larger resources," the report said.

The Jeddah-based IDB was established by the 46-member Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) and opened in October 1975.

Trade doubles in 10 years

Mr. Ahmad Mohammad Ali, IDB president said earlier that trade among OIC countries has doubled during the last decade and that the figure constitutes 10 per cent of the OIC total trade.

"Ten years ago trade among Islamic countries was around four to five per cent (of their total trade). So it has been almost doubled to 10 per cent in the last 10 years. But we hope for more than that," he told a news conference.

He said a long-term trade financing scheme prepared by the OIC Standing Committee for commercial and economic cooperation would start functioning shortly.

So far, 16 OIC members had decided to take part in the scheme, which would finance trade in non-traditional goods among participating countries.

World recession reduces IDB loans

ISTANBUL (R) — The Islamic Development Bank (IDB) said in its 11th annual report that loans during the last Islamic year fell 24 per cent due to world economic recession.

Total financing approved by the bank for projects, trade, and technical and special assistance fell to 756.9 million Islamic dinars (\$348.6 million) in the year ended Sept. 4, 1986, from 1,001.4 million dinars (\$988.9 million) the previous year.

The report was submitted to the two-day board of governors meeting in Istanbul ending Sunday.

"Due to a general recession in the world economy, the demand for development funds was low and there was a scarcity of prospective projects in most member countries during 1986 (September 1985-86)," the report said.

It said a steep decline in oil prices had led to a major transfer of resources from oil-producing countries to industrial nations.

The report said that although there was reduction in foreign trade financing loans in the past year due to sharp decline in the price of oil and various primary commodities, the quantity financed in physical terms of imports was higher.

The report said that although there was reduction in foreign trade financing loans in the past year due to sharp decline in the price of oil and various primary commodities, the quantity financed in physical terms of imports was higher.

abroad it might help to narrow the trade gap.

"Open-mouth policy is more powerful than open market policy," Mr. Pardee, who formerly headed the New York Federal Reserve's foreign exchange operations, said.

Although the central bank has bought an estimated \$5 to \$6 billion on the open market in the past week, greater attention is being paid to apparent signs of impatience in Washington over the speed of Japanese action to help redress gaping trade imbalances.

In the most striking indication of impatience, President Reagan said on Friday he intended to raise tariffs by as much as \$300 million on Japanese exports to the United States in retaliation to Tokyo's failure to abide by a 1986 U.S.-Japanese semiconductor agreement.

The market has interpreted various comments... as an indication that the United States is taking the dollar lower," Mr. Scott Pardee, vice chairman of Yamamichi International (America) Inc., said.

In recent months, Washington has been viewed as favouring a lower dollar because by making U.S. goods more competitive

Heavy dollar selling began last Monday after U.S. trade representative, Mr. Clayton Yeutter, warned of a serious trade war between the United States and Japan and U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker said there were no target levels for the dollar.

The dollar fell to a 40-year low against the yen of 148.20 before concerted central bank intervention and official calls for dollar stability helped to assuage some of the market's selling fervour.

However, such action was rendered almost meaningless by U.S. Assistant Treasury Secretary David Mulford's comment on Thursday that Japan and West Germany had not yet carried out their international responsibilities.

Apart from precautionary short-covering, the dollar may get some welcome relief in the coming week when Japanese fiscal year-end pressure subsides and if March U.S. employment figures show signs of strength in the economy, economists say.

"There is also a (federal open market committee) meeting... it is possible the Fed (Federal Reserve, the U.S. central bank) could tighten policy to help the dollar," Mr. O'Neill said.

While the Federal Reserve

would no doubt be reluctant to

nudge interest rates higher due to the U.S. economy's persistently uneven progress, analysts said it could not afford to risk a debilitating loss of confidence in the dollar.

"The United States is on its way to 140 yen and maybe on to 120 yen unless Mr. Baker comes out and says that the United States does not want a further move downwards," Mr. James O'Neill, financial markets economist at Marine Midland Banks Inc., said.

Mr. Lawrence Kreicher, currency analyst at Irving Trust Co., agreed. "I would not be surprised to see 145 or 146 next week and ultimately we could see 140, or even 120. The only question is when," he said.

Apart from the semiconductor dispute, the market will also be eagerly anticipating February's U.S. trade figures, to be widened to \$14.8 billion in January from \$12.7 billion in December.

"The driving force behind currency movements is the trade imbalance. As long as the Japanese trade surplus is so large, the yen has to appreciate," Mr. Cerier said.

another analyst.

As globalisation of the financial markets accelerates, Japanese firms are expected to turn their sights on the expertise of the U.S. brokerage industry.

Competition to gain a foothold in the important Asian market has also created a craving for more capital by U.S. firms.

Mr. Eckenfelder said that such Wall Street blue chip companies as Merrill Lynch and Co. Inc., First Boston Corp., Morgan Stanley and Co. and Salomon Brothers Inc. were possible candidates.

THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"Let's try it for a week. If you like it, can we get a real dog

Problems cast doubt on new U.S. arms deployment schedule

WASHINGTON (AP) — Several of the Defence Department's most important new weapons programmes face substantial development or cost overrun problems, raising doubts about deployment schedules, a report concludes.

The report, prepared by the non-partisan General Accounting Office (GAO), focuses on 20 major acquisition programmes that are nearing key deadlines for approval of either full-scale development or actual production. It singles out a number of those programmes as in need of further scrutiny because of development problems. The most notable among those are the army's LHX helicopter and Aquila Drone Projects, the navy's new attack-submarine combat system, and the air force's Amraam missile and world-wide military command and control system.

The report was requested by Sen. Sam Nunn, an opposition Democrat recently installed as chairman of the Senate Armed

Services Committee.

A copy of the report was released Saturday by the project on military procurement, a private, self-styled defence watchdog group based in Washington. Scott Maxwell, a spokesman for Sen. Nunn, said the senator had not received the report. Mr. Maxwell said Sen. Nunn expected to hear of its findings on April 2, when GAO auditors have been summoned to appear before the committee.

The GAO is the investigative arm of Congress.

The 107-page report finds that virtually all of the weapons have suffered schedule slips ranging from four months to 51 months. The most severe delay is attributed to the Aquila, an unmanned remotely piloted surveillance

drone for the army. The Aquila programme drew sharp criticism from the GAO. Noting the service is scheduled to make a production decision in July, the GAO warned:

"Throughout full-scale development, the Aquila has experienced technical problems which, together with funding shortages, have more than tripled cost and delayed fielding by nearly seven years."

The GAO also warned the army was experiencing serious problems in developing a new generation of light helicopters — a programme dubbed the LHX, for light helicopter experimental.

"The LHX's original goals

have proven too optimistic," the GAO wrote. "Compared to the

new world wide military command and control system, a system of computers linked by an international communications network for use by all the services, is about 14 months behind schedule because of testing delays and funding reductions," the GAO reported.

Turning to the navy, the GAO warned that efforts to develop an advanced sonar and combat-control system for the next generation attack submarine had bogged down in computer software problems reported.

FAO receives \$189m for African farming projects

NAIROBI (R) — A U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) emergency programme to revive agriculture in Africa has received \$189 million in two years of operation, the agency said Sunday.

In a statement issued on the second anniversary of the Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme for Africa (ARPA), FAO Director-General Edouard Saouma said ARPA projects would cost a total of \$287 million. Donors have given \$189 million

and expressed interest in further projects worth \$64 million, leaving projects costing another \$34 million short of funds, he added.

The programme was designed to restore food production to the levels before the 1984-85 drought by supplying seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, tools, vaccines and livestock feed.

Twenty-five African countries, mostly in the Sahel region south of the Sahara have benefited from the scheme, the statement added.

Casey leaves hospital

WASHINGTON (AP) — William J. Casey, the former CIA director who resigned in February after undergoing surgery for brain cancer, was discharged from Georgetown University hospital, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Mr. Casey, who had been readmitted on March 13 for "re-evaluation," was discharged late in the afternoon, said Maurice Mullin, a hospital administrator.

Mrs. Mullin had no comment on the condition of the 74-year-

Former nun who inspired the Sound of Music dies

STOWE, Vermont (R) — Maria Von Trapp, the one-time nun whose singing family served as the inspiration for the play and movie the Sound of Music, died at the age of 82, a family spokesman said.

George Von Trapp said his grandmother died at the Copey Hospital in Morrisville, Vermont, where she had undergone an operation last Wednesday to remove a blood clot in her abdomen.

"The doctors found that the clot had developed gangrene and there was nothing they could do for her," the younger Von Trapp said.

He said his grandmother had been very active until two years ago but then suffered two mild strokes "and just retired from active life."

But she retained an interest in the running of the Von Trapp

family lodge, an Austrian style cross-country ski resort just outside Stowe, and made a point of visiting the souvenir shop once a week and talking to visitors, he said.

Von Trapp said no plans had yet been made for his grandmother's funeral but it would take place in Stowe.

Maria Von Trapp left a Salzburg convent at age 20 to teach the seven children of widower Baron Georg Von Trapp. She married the 46-year-old Baron a year later, in 1927, and bore him three more children.

The family fled Austria in 1938 during the Nazi occupation of Austria by crossing over the Alps on foot and arrived in New York with only \$4 to their name.

They started performing concerts around the country as the Von Trapp Family Singers and eventually settled in the Green Mountains of Vermont.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1986 Tadouros Media Services, Inc.

DEAR MR. GOREN:

Q.—When is a suit preference signal not a suit preference signal? I am not trying to be funny. The problem arises the other night when, in defending against a contract of four hearts, partner led the king of spades and I followed with the two. I had intended it simply as discouraging. My partner shifted away from the queen of clubs into declarer's ace-king-jack and gave him the contract. He insisted that my play to the first trick was a suit-preference signal. If that is the case, how does one encourage and not discourage? —A.D., Silver Spring, Md.

A.—There are a variety of signaling techniques available to the defenders. Some of them are extremely complicated and require considerable expertise; you would do well to avoid them. The two methods most commonly practiced are to show attitude or to give count. By far the majority of players show attitude. In other words, the card they play to partner's lead tells whether or not they like the suit. If they play a high card, it is encouraging and asks partner to continue the suit. Conversely, a low card is discouraging and suggests to partner there might be greener fields

Chirac urges U.S. to work with allies on arms control

WASHINGTON (AP) — French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac said the Soviet Union must be allowed to gain a military advantage from the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

A U.S.-Soviet agreement on medium-range missiles "must not undercut the overall balance of nuclear forces. And must not award an advantage in short-range missiles," Mr. Chirac said in an interview published in Sunday's editions of the Washington Post.

Mr. Chirac, who barbs doubts about Soviet arms control initiatives, will seek support from U.S. President Ronald Reagan for a European security character

that would augment conventional defences while France and Britain continue to expand their national nuclear forces, the newspaper said.

The French prime minister is scheduled to make an official visit to Washington this week to meet with Mr. Reagan.

Mr. Chirac will tell the president about private misgivings that France, Britain and to a lesser extent, West Germany, have about the impact of the proposed agreement on the NATO alliance, the Post said.

On another subject, Mr. Chirac said he was encouraged by recent victories by French-supported Chadian troops over Libyan forces.

REBEL NEW PEOPLES' ARMY (NPA).

Mrs. Aquino appealed to about 30,000 people at a rally in this Mindanao Island city to elect all 24 of her personally endorsed senate candidates.

Also, the Philippines' military was on full alert Sunday against possible attacks marking the 18th anniversary of the Communist

rebel New Peoples' Army (NPA).

Mrs. Aquino appealed to about 30,000 people at a rally in this Mindanao Island city to elect all 24 of her personally endorsed senate candidates.

"I blame the leftists and the rightists for the present problems in the country," Mrs. Aquino said.

While Col. Kahmann broke the

ice with his East German Army (NVA) counterpart General Gerhard Knuze, other Western officers were enthusiastic over chances to watch opposition on East German soil.

British Army Col. Roy Giles,

over to observe the 23,500 Soviet

and I,500 East German troops in

action, said he was free to wander

and talk with ordinary soldiers.

In quiet moments, Warsaw

Pact and NATO traded anecdotes on army life and compared uniforms.

"At one point I was allowed to

sit by the tracks of a T-72 tank

and climb inside a Soviet

armoured vehicle, and that would have been unthinkable two years ago," Col. Giles said.

"I had to break off work at one

point to buy some things. To my

surprise, the local people didn't

seem at all shocked at the sight of a

Bundeswehr officer popping into

the shop," Col. Kahmann said.

His surprise was perhaps justified.

Since the two states emerged in divided Germany in 1949, each army has sought to

portray the other as sinister and aggressive.

But unlike previous agreements,

it allows observers to move around exercise areas and

talk to soldiers — a facility Warsaw Pact observers had in the

West, but which they had denied

NATO officials.

Maj.-Gen. Yegor Bokov, chief

Soviet "mind" to the observer

teams, told Reuters he would do

everything to enforce the agree-

ment at the six-day manoeuvres.

Platoon expected to mop up Oscars tonight

LOS ANGELES (R) — A film no major Hollywood studio would make, Platoon, an instant-man's stark, bloody view of the Vietnam war, is heavily favoured to mop up the Oscars Monday night, watched by a billion viewers.

The nominations for Platoon apparently showed a change of heart by the 4,355 members of the industry who make up the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, which chooses the winners, industry analysts said.

The conservative academy has often preferred non-controversial subjects. But Platoon has occasionally led to fights and to boos and cheering by opponents and supporters of the Vietnam war in U.S. cinemas.

A win for Newman would be well received in Hollywood. His previous nominations include one for the Hustler, the film in which he created the role of billiard room hustler, fast Eddie Felson 26 years ago, the character that could earn him an Oscar this time.

Helping Newman is the fact that Platoon did not receive a Best Actor nomination, although Tom Berenger and Willem Dafoe, who play rival sergeants fighting for the loyalty of their Platoon, were both nominated for Best Supporting Actor.

A possible challenge to New-

man could come from the squat, London cockney actor Bob Hoskins, nominated for his role as an ex-con who falls in love with a prostitute in Mona Lisa, and from James Woods, who plays a frazzled journalist in Salvador.

Ismail Merchant, producer of A Room With A View, an elegant Edwardian comedy of manners, said he feels his film has a good chance despite recent Oscar victories for the British Chariots of Fire and Gandhi. "The academy is very international-minded," he said.

Turner said when she heard she

had been nominated she jumped up and down and opened a bottle of champagne. "At least I'm at last being recognised on the street," said Turner, who made her film debut six years ago in Body Heat.

Matlin, nominated for her film debut, said she wanted to prove anyone could do anything they wished. "I hope I have opened doors to others out there like me," she said.

Woody Allen, who has said he regards actors competing against

each other for Oscars as meaning- less, has been nominated for the 11th time for an Oscar, for Best Director.

Allen was playing his clarinet

in a New York bar group when he

won Oscars for directing and

writing Annie Hall in 1977. He

has refused to allow his film

distributors to promote his

nominations for Best Film, for

Hannah And Her Sisters, and for

himself this time.

The analysts believe this will

bust his chances. Another hand-

icap for Hannah And Her Sisters,

which is about family life and love

among the New York middle

class, is that the film was released in the United States 14 months ago.

Platoon came out only last

December and is fresh in the

minds of voters.

Britain's Maggie Smith, winner

of two previous Oscars, and De-

nholm Elliott were nominated for Best Supporting Actress and

Actor for their roles in A Room

With A View, and fellow countryman Michael Caine, nomi-

nated three times before, was

chosen in the Best Supporting

Actor category for Hannah And Her Sisters.

But strong opposition for Best

Supporting Actor is expected to

come from Berenger and Dennis

Hopper, who came back to acting

after struggling with drug addic-

tion and drink to play a town

drunk in a basketball film,

Hoosiers.

The analysts believe this will

bust his chances. Another hand-

icap for Hannah And Her Sisters,

which is about family life and love

among the New York middle

class, is that the film was released in the United States 14 months ago.

Platoon came out only last